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PRINCIPAL NAZI ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED IN THE COMMISSION OF WAR CRIMES

THE NAZI PARTY
(Parts I and II)

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24 July 1945

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SECRET

THE NATIONAL SOCIALIST PARTY (NSDAP)

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM: THE PARTY AS KEY DEFENDANT

Central responsibility for the commission of war crimes is anchored in the National Socialist Party (NSDAP). This does not mean that all members of the Party are guilty of the actual perpetration of war crimes. Nor does it mean that those who are guilty bear an equal share of responsibility. It does not even mean that the Party itself has been the chief executor of all war crimes, specifically of all well known atrocities committed against political, racial, ethnic or religious minorities. As a matter of fact, the majority of these atrocities have been carried out by organisations--within the Nazi Movement[1] but not necessarily within the Party proper--which consisted of technicians organized and trained for specific purposes including the commission of atrocities.

However, inasmuch as the Party claimed to be "the political outlook, the political conscience, the political will" (Hitler, Nuremberg Party Congress, 1935), it is essentially the Party as such which must be held ultimately responsible for having planned, inaugurated, and directed the execution of crimes. Moreover, since the Party was conceived and founded as an instrument of political conquest, if necessary by force, devised to dominate "the totality of public life" and to destroy the order created by the Treaty of Versailles, the Nazi Party in itself represents the chief evidence of the existence of a cohesive plan or enterprise which plan or

1. The Nazi Movement as against the Nazi Party comprises the Party proper as well as the Affiliated Associations Supervised Organizations and other organizations controlled by the Party.

enterprise included or intended, or was reasonably calculated to involve, the use of unlawful means for its accomplishment, including the commission of atrocities and other crimes.

Elements of this evidence are:

1. The Party Program, in which the plan for conquest and domination was defined and openly pronounced, and

2. The Party Organization, because in it

   a. the principles of domination were realized, e.g. the leadership principle;

   b. the means of domination were made chief operating devices, e.g. indoctrination, propaganda, etc.; and

   c. the agents of domination were recruited, trained, organized and directed, e.g. the Political Leaders, the SA, the SS, etc.

The Party Program provided the ideological platform for "a common plan or enterprise aimed at the establishment of complete German domination of Europe and eventually the world." This plan involved, according to the program, a number of crimes which must be considered as integral schemes in the preparation and execution of the plan.

The Party Organization laid out the organizational pattern most suitable for the realization of such a plan. Inasmuch as this plan involved the arrogation of all political power, all elements within the Party structure which were designed to secure internal control, i.e. over Party members, gain enhanced importance as stratagems prerequisite to the estab-

lishment of total control outside the Party. Specifically, all principles of control embodied in the structure of the Party must be considered as providing the basic rules for control outside the Party. All means, including illegal or criminal ones, employed by the Party to establish exclusive control by Party authorities over Party members must be considered as strategic devices to establish Party influence and, eventually, Party hegemony inside Germany and beyond the German borders. All Party offices and agencies set up to develop and enforce the principles of control, and to apply the means of conquest and domination, must be considered as the political cadres held in readiness for the purpose of either absorbing or controlling all non-Party offices and agencies operating in like or related fields, and, eventually, used as agents to enforce the will of the Party upon all subordinate to Party control.

I. THE PARTY PROGRAM AS SOURCE OF THE NAZI CONSPIRACY

The existence of an over-all plan aimed at ruthless realization of Nazi principles inside Germany and beyond is clearly evidenced in the Party program.

The Party program was first proclaimed by Hitler in February 1920 and, according to Nazi assertion, has remained unchanged ever since. It has been called "the political foundation of the NSDAP and therewith the fundamental political law of the State."[1] Although parts of the program have found their way into public legislation, and other parts have become essential elements of German internal and foreign policy, the program as such has never become state law. This, however, has not reduced the influence of the program on German public life. As the uncodified constitution of National Socialism, the Party program dominated the decisions not only of the Party leadership but likewise of the Government and of the Armed Forces. In a sense the Party program, according to Nazi stipulation, was meant to serve as a supplement to the law, inasmuch as "every law must be applied in the spirit of the Party program."[2]

In view of its declared importance for German political life, the Party program provides a vital criterion whenever a judgment is to be

1. Nationalsozialistisches Jahrbuch, 1944. p. 159
2. ibid.

formed, as to whether the action of a Nazi authority constituted an unauthorized and spontaneous violation of the law by an individual office, or was part and parcel of an over-all plan conceived and executed under Party auspices. Points of the Party program most pertinent to the charge of war crimes include the following demands, raised directly or implicitly: (1) Re-union of all Germans in a Greater Germany; (2) Abrogation of the treaties of Versailles and St. Germain; (3) Acquisition of colonies; (4) Establishment of citizenship on racial grounds (expulsion of Jews); (5) Institution of special legislation for non-citizens, i.e. non-racial Germans; (6) Exclusion of non-citizens, i.e. non-racial Germans from public office and from the press; (7) Discrimination in granting access to sources and means of livelihood on racial grounds; expulsion of non-citizens from the Reich in case of scarcity of foodstuffs; (8) Prohibition of immigration and compulsory emigration of all non-Germans who immigrated after 2 August 1914; (9) Abrogation of the professional militia and creation of a "people's army"; (10) Fight against the "Jewish-materialistic spirit"; and (11) Creation of a strong central authority.

Most of these postulates have been realized. Others, not mentioned above, have been neglected in the course of the years. But the majority of them have determined the political conduct of the Party leadership on the way to power and thereafter. In their uncompromising form the demands of the Party program laid the groundwork for the series of crimes which can-

been described as follows:

1. Establishment of rigid control over the government and all its agencies;

2. Destruction of all political resistance;

3. Division of German citizenry on a racial basis;

4. Unlawful expropriation, spoliation and forced sale;

5. Extermination of racial, ethnic, and religious minorities;

6. Launching of illegal wars of aggression.

II. THE PARTY ORGANIZATION AS AN INSTRUMENT OF TOTAL DOMINATION

Nazi leaders have never left any doubt in the mind of their audiences that the Party, from the very outset, intended to arrogate all power to itself ("Sie wollte, kompromisslos die alleinige Macht in Deutschland").[1] To this end, the Party was conceived and organized as an instrument of political conquest and political domination. The NSDAP, in accordance with Nazi definition, was "the instrument with which the Führer won the people."[2] Above and beyond the internal struggle for power, the Party was created "to give the German people a form of government which was meant, for centuries to come, to secure its just and vital interests"("dem deutschen Volke eine Staatsform zu geben, die auf Jahrhunderte seine berechtigten Lebensinteressen sichern soll").[3] Speaking before the old fighters on the eleventh anniversary of the Party's seizure of power, Hitler described the meaning of Nazi domination through Party control as follows: "1. By the solution of social problems, the Reich had again to acquire its lost internal social peace; that is, the element of class cleavage - the bourgeoisie and the proletariat - had to be eliminated in all their manifestations, and in their place a national community set up. The appeal to

1. Hitler, at Nuremberg Party Congress, 1934 published in "Der Kongress zu Nurnberg," Central Verlag der NSDAP, p. 204.
2. "Das Instrument, mit dem der Fuhrer das Volk gewann" -- Nationalsozialistischen Jahrbuch, 1944, p. 173.
3. Nationalsozialistisches Jahrbuch, 1944, p. 173.

reason had to be supplemented with ruthless elimination of the viciously resisting elements in all camps. 2. The social-political unity of the nation was to be supplemented by national-political unity; that is, in place of the Reich body rent asunder not only politically but also in its statehood, the National Socialist unified State had to arise, with a structure and with a leadership equipped to face and withstand even the greatest trials of attack and pressure. 3. The unified State built upon national and political foundations had the task of immediately creating the Wehrmacht which in its intellectual outlook and moral attitude, its numerical strength, and in its material armament could serve as a satisfactory instrument in the tasks of self-assertion. After the rest of the world had rejected all German offers for the limitation of armaments, the Reich had to fashion its own armament accordingly. 4. In order to be able at all to maintain her position in Europe with a chance of success, there was necessary the incorporation of all those countries which are populated by Germans or which constitute areas belonging to the German Reich for more than a thousand years and which are territories indispensable, nationally and economically, for the preservation of the Reich, that is, for its political and military defense."[1]

A. The Principles of Control

The Manual for the Organization of the Party (Organisationsbuch der

1. Hitler, 30 January 1944; German Text and English Translation available at FCC, Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service.

NSDAP, edition 1943) distinguishes four leading principles of control:[1]

1. The leadership principle (Führerprinzip), i. e. the principle of authoritarian organizational and totalitarian control. This principle is embodied in the office of the Führer. Authoritarian control exercised by other Party offices is purely derivative.

2. Subordination and coordination (Unter- und Einordnung in die Gesamtorganisationsform), i. e. the principle of monopolistic control. This principle is guaranteed chiefly by the following offices of the Reichsleitung (Reich Directorate) of the Party:

The Reichsorganisationsleiter (Reich Leader for Party Organization) and three Main Offices subordinate to him:

the Hauptorganisationsamt (Main Office for Organization)

the Hauptpersonalamt (Main Office for Personnel)

the Hauptschulungsamt (Main Office for Education)

The Reichsschatzmeister (Reich Treasurer)

The Reichspropagandaleiter (Reich Propaganda Leader)

The Reichspressechef (Reich Press Chief)

The Hauptamt für Volksgesundheit (Main Office for Public Health)

The Auslands-Organisation der NSDAP (Foreign Organization of the Party

3. Regional Unification (Regionale Einheit), i. e. the principle of regional and vertical control. This principle is anchored in the offices of the so-called Hoheitsträger (bearer of sovereignty) of the Party, i.e.

1. P. 86

The Führer

The Gauleiter (Gau Leader)

The Kreisleiter (District Leader)

The Ortsgruppenleiter (Local Leader)

The Zellenleiter (Cell Leader)

The Blockleiter (Block Leader)

4. Manifestation of an Active Community Spirit (Ausdruckgebung des praktischen Gemeinschaftsgedankens), i. e. the principle of mass control, which was the supervision of the so-called Affiliated Associations (Angeschlossene Verbaende), Supervised Organizations (Betreute Organisationen), and other Party-controlled organizations by specific Party offices as indicated below:

Controlled Organizations	Controlling Office
a. Affiliated Associations	
Deutsche Arbeitsfront (German Labor Front)	Reichsorganisationsleiter (Reich Organization Leader)
N.S. Volkswohlfahrt (N. S. Public Welfare Association)	Hauptamt für Volkswohlfahrt (Main Office for Public Welfare)
N. S. Deutscher Aerztebund (N.S. League of German Physicians)	Hauptamt für Volksgesundheit (Main Office for Public Health
N. S. Rechtswahrerbund (N. S. League of Legal Officials)	Führer through Partei-Kanzlei Party Chancellery

Controlled Organizations	Controlling Office
Affiliated Associations (Cont'd.)	
N. S. Lehrerbund (N. S. League of Teachers)	Hauptamt für Erzieher (Main Office for Educators)
Reichsbund der Deutschen Beamten (Reich League of Civil Servants)	Hauptamt für Beamte (Main Office for Civil Servants)
N. S. Bund Deutscher Technik (N. S. League of German Technology)	Hauptamt für Technik (Main Office Technology)
N. S. Kriegsopferversorgung (N. S. Organization for War Victims)	Hauptamt für Kriegsopfer (Main Office for War Victims)
b. Supervised Organizations	
Deutsche Studentenschaft (German Students' Society)	Reichsstudentenführung (Reich Student Leader)
N. S. Altherrenbund der Deutschen Studenten (N. S. League of Former Corps Members)	Reichsstudentenführung (Reich Student Leader)
Deutsches Frauenwerk (German Women's Work)	Reichsfrauenführerin (Reich Women Leader)
Deutscher Gemeindetag (Chamber of German Municipalities)	Hauptamt für Kommunalpolitik (Main Office for Communal Policy)
Reichsbund Deutscher Schwestern (Reich League of German Nurses)	Hauptamt für Volkswohlfahrt (Main Office for Public Welfare)

Controlled Organizations	Controlling Office
b. Supervised Organizations (Cont'd.)	
Reichsbund Deutsche Familie (Reich League "German Family")	Rassenpolitisches Amt der NSDAP (Office for Racial Policy)
N. S. Reichsbund fuer Leibesubungen (Reich League for Physical Training)	Partei-Kanzlei (Party Chancellery)
c. Other Organizations	
Deutsche Dozentenschaft (Society of German University Teachers)	Reichsdozentenführer (Reich Leader of University Teachers)
Reichsarbeitsdienst (Reich Labor Service)	Reichsarbeitsführer (Reich Labor Service Leader)
Reichsluftschutzbund (Reich Air Raid Protection League)	Partei-Kanzlei (Party Chancellery)
Volkssturm (People's Militia)	Partei-Kanzlei (Party Chancellery)
Reichsnaehrstand (Reich Food Estate)	Reichsbauernführer (Reich Peasant Leader)

1. The Leadership Principle. The leadership principle is undoubtedly the most characteristic and the most portentous feature of the Nazi system. Its chief implications are

authoritarian control, inside the Party;
organizational control, inside the Movement;
totalitarian control, outside Party and Movement

a. Authoritarian Control (inside the Party). The leadership principle invests the Fuhrer with exclusive and final authority in all matters submitted to or arregated by him. The first commandant for the Party member spells it out: "The Führer is always right" (Der Führer hat immer recht!").. His infallibility rests upon a presumptive delegation by the people themselves. As a delegate of the people, the Führer is "independent of all groups, associations, and interests"; he is bound merely by such laws as are "inherent in the nature of his people"[1]. In other words, the Führer is not limited by codified or even by natural laws. Nor is the Führer restricted by any "checks and controls," including the people themselves, since "the true will of the people cannot be disclosed through parliamentary votes and plebiscites but...in its pure and uncorrupted form can only be expressed through the Führer"[2]. The Führer, consequently, is not only above the law, he is the law. "The will of the Fuhrer," according to Party doctrine, "is supreme law in the Party."[3]

It is worth noting that, when discussing governmental authority in the abstract, Nazi leaders have indicated the limits of governmental authority. In Mein Kampf,[4] Hitler defied governmental tyranny in internal affairs and granted the right of civil disobedience, even revolution, in the following terms:

1. Huber, Verfassungsrecht des Grossdeutschen Reiches.
2. Huber, ibid.
3. Der Wille des Führers ist iberstes Gesetz in der Partei" -- Organisationsbuch der NSDA., 1943, p. 148
4. Complete and unabridged edition in English, Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, p. 122. All subsequent quotations from Mein Kampf refer to this edition.

"There can be no State authority as a means in itself, as in that case all tyranny on earth would be unassailable and sacred.

"If a people is led to destruction by the instrument of governmental power, then the rebellion on the part of each and every member of such a nation is not only a right but a duty.

"The question, however, when such a case arises, is not decided by theoretical treatises but by force - and success.

"As every government power naturally claims the right of preserving the authority of the State, no matter how inferior it is or that it has betrayed the concerns of a nation a thousand times, the folkish interest of self-preservation, when subduing such a power in order to gain freedom or independence, will have to use the same weapons with which the adversary is holding his own.

....

"Human rights break State rights."

With regard to international relations Goebbels, in an article in the Völkischer Beobachter of 28 May 1944, defined the limit of military authority as follows:

"It is not provided in any military law that a soldier can be immune from punishment for despicable crimes by claiming that he acted according to instructions from his superiors when such instructions are in sharp contradiction to every humane standard and to every international practice of waging war."

In both cases Nazi protest against breaches of natural or international

laws by governmental (or military) authorities was launched with regard to hypothetical or alleged offenses by enemies. It is therefore questionable whether, in registering their indignation, the Nazis intended to restrict the authority of the Führer to any degree. Only rarely in the history of National Socialism did the Nazis resort to the authority of the Reich Government as such to sustain the legality of measures taken by the Führer. Following the Roehm purge of June/July 1934, the Reich Government decreed the "Law Concerning Measures of State Emergency" of 3 July 1934,[1] which declared in its only article:

> "The measures adopted on June 30, July 1 and 2, to smash treasonable attacks are legal as an act of State emergency."

But even this procedure was not intended to legalize formally an act ordered or performed by the Führer; it was designed, rather, to defend the legality of the act before the German public.

The unlimited authority of the Führer makes for total insecurity before the law. In addition, it eliminates, a priori, all actual and potential sources of criticism and opposition. In sum, the leadership principle becomes the principal prerequisite for the destruction not only of the political opposition per se but of all groups which represented, advocated or recognized manifestly an authority besides the Führer and outside the realm of the Party.

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1. RGBl, part I, p. 529.

b. Organizational Control (within the Movement). The leadership principle secured Party domination of the people through enrollment of individuals in organizations under control of Party leaders. The Party, according to Nazi definition, is an "Order of Leaders" ("Führerorden"). In Hitler's own words, "the Party in the future will constitute the elite of political leaders of the German people" ("die politische Führungsauslese des deutschen Volkes"). "It will train a state of political apostles and fighters who will serve as obedient and disciplined officers of the movement."[1] Consequently, the Party for its various formations, recruited Party and non-Party members suitable for leadership or for the execution of specific political functions. These formations included the SA, SS, NSKK, HJ, NS Women's League, the NS Students' League and the NS University Teacher's League. The rest of the population was organized in so-called "supervised organizations" ("Menschenbetreuende Organisationen"), e.g. the NS League of German Physicians, the NS League of Teachers, the Reich League of German Civil Servants, the NS Organization for War Victims, the German Women's Work, which in turn were placed under the direct control of the Party. Each of these "supervised organizations" was controlled functionally by the corresponding Party office, e.g. the NS League of German Physicians by the Main Office for Public Health, and the NS League of Teachers by the Main Office for Education. The leadership of each organization was supplied by the Party. This system of control was carried into the regional level. It

1. Nuremberg Party Congress 1934, pp. cit. 211

was the prerequisite for the suppression of the rights of expression and assembly outside the realm of the Party.

c. Totalitarian Control (outside Party and Movement). The leadership principle ensured the supremacy of the Party over all public (political and military) authorities outside the Party. According to Party doctrine, "the NSDAP as the Order of Leaders of the German people dominates the totality of public life" ("das gesamte öffentliche Leben").[1] The prerogative of the Party had its legal basis in the "Law Against the Reestablishment of Parties" (Gesetz gegen die Neubildung von Parteien) of 14 July 1933,[2] which established the NSDAP as "the only political party in Germany," and in the "Law to Safeguard the Unity of Party and State" (Gesetz zur Sicherung der Einheit von Partei und Staat) of 1 December 1933,[3] which declared the NSDAP "the bearer of the German state idea" ("Traeger der deutschen Staatsidee")and "indissolubly linked to the state." Party supremacy was enunciated even more drastically by leading personalities of the Party, including Hitler, who stated: "It is not the State which gives orders to us, it is we who give orders to the State" ("Nicht der Staat befiehlt uns, sondern wir befehlen dem Staat!")[4] Wilhelm Frick, Himmler's

1. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 86.
2. Reichsgesetzblatt (RGBl) part I, page 479.
3. RGBl, part I, p. 1016.
4. Nuremberg Party Congress, 1934, op. cit. p. 162.

predecessor as Minister of the Interior, and bearer of Party membership number one, declared in similar vein: "In National Socialist Germany, leadership is in the hands of an organized community, the National Socialist Party; and as the latter represents the will of the nation, the policy adopted by it in harmony with the vital interests of the nation is at the same time the policy adopted by the country..."[1] Nazi interpreters of constitutional law insisted that "the NSDAP is not a structure which stands under direct state control, to which single tasks of public administration are entrusted by the State, but it holds and maintains its claim to totality as the 'bearer of the German state-idea" in all fields relating to the community -- regardless of how various single functions are divided between the organization of the Party and the organization of the State."[2] According to another, "the Party stands above and beside the State as the wielder of an authority derived from the people with its own sovereign powers and its own sphere of sovereignty...The legal position of the Party is therefore that of a completely sovereign authority whose legal

1. Quoted in an article entitled "Germany as a Unitary State" which is included in a book called: "Germany Speaks," (pp. 30-31) published in London, 1933; the quotation is cited in "National Social " publication of the Department of State prepared in the Special Unit of the Division of European Affairs by Raymond Murphy, Francis B. Stevens, Howard Trivers, Joseph M. Roland, Washington, 1942, p. 94.
2. Neesse in Die Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei - Versuch einer Rechtsdeutung (Stuttgart 1935), p. 131; quoted in op. cit., p. 49.

supremacy and self-sufficiency rest upon the original independent authority which the Führer and the Movement have attained as a result of their historical achievements."[1]

Leadership of the Party over all other organs and bodies of authority became manifest in a number of legislative acts and administrative measures adopted after 1933. The most important are the "Law Concerning the Head of State of the German Reich" (Gesetz über das Staatsoberhaupt des Deutschen Reiches)[2] of 1 August 1934, which combined the Office of Reich President with those of Führer and Chancellor, and the "Decree Concerning the Command of the Armed Forces" (Erlass über die Führung der Wehrmacht) of 4 February 1938,[3] by virtue of which Hitler assumed the command over all Armed Forces ("die Befehlsgewalt über die gesamte Wehrmacht"). In an article entitled "Germany as a Unitary State," Frick interpreted the unification of the supreme command of the Party, the State, and the Armed Forces as follows: "The unity of the Party and the State finds its highest realization in the person of the Führer and Chancellor who combines the offices of President and Chancellor. He is the Führer of the National Socialist Party, the political head of the State and the supreme commander of the Armed Forces"[4]

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1. Gauweiler, Rechtseinrichtungen und Rechtsaufgaben der Bewegung (Munich 1939) p. 9, quoted in op. cit., p. 42.
2. RGBl I, p. 747.
3. RGBl I, p. 111.
4. "Germany Speaks", p. 31, op. cit. p. 38

The merger of the highest Party and State offices in the person of the Führer set a precedent for Party leaders of minor stature and rank. It introduced synchronization of Party and State offices not merely as a matter of administrative expediency, but as a matter of principle which was followed from the highest to the lowest echelons of the Party and State hierarchy: High officials of the Party, e.g. Reichsleiter, assumed that office within the Reich Government whose functions corresponded most closely to that held to them in their capacity of party leaders. For instance, Goebbels as Reich Propaganda Leader of the Party became Reich Minister for Propaganda. In other instances, Party offices were incorporated bodily into the government apparatus. Thus, Himmler made the Reichssicherheitshauptamt (Reich Main Security Office) of the SS a sub-division within the Reich Ministry of the Interior. Major Party officials were also given a newly created government office, or their functions were simply unified with those formerly maintained by government officials. For example, the Gauleiter were made Reich Governors (Reichsstatthalter), Reich Defense Commissioners and, in addition, their office was merged with that of the Provincial Presidents in Prussia.[1] In addition, all members of the Reich Cabinet were made members of the Party at the time of their appointment.

Additional evidence of Party supremacy over State authority can be found in the Law about the German Civil Service (Deutsches Beamtengesetz) of 26 January 1937[2] which stipulated that the German Civil Service be

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1. For details, see Chapter C.
2. RGBl I, p. 39, 136.

"permeated by National Socialist ideology" and that "the German civil servant...is the executor of the will of theState which in turn is carried by the National Socialist Party." No appointments could be made without the consent of the Party Deputy of the Führer.[1]

All these measures resulted not only in a steadily growing dependence of the whole government machinery on Party directives and policies but it helped to introduce and to sanction the most elaborate spoils system which ever operated in any government.

In sum, the leadership principle as defined and operated by the Party proved to be, of allpprinciples embodied in the Party, the most effective instrument of political conquest. Among the various categories of war crimes charged to the Party, it helped prepare

> "the establishment of rigid internal control over the government and all its agencies, religion, administration of justice, education, news dissemination, finance, commerce, industry, labor and the professions."

2. Subordination and Coordination (Monopolistic Control). To guarantee "Party discipline", i.e. uniformity of thought and action within the Nazi movement, the Party saw to it that authoritarian control by the leader of the individual organization was supplemented by what is called "surveillance" ("Uberwachung"). That is to say, offices (Ämter), certain formations (NSD-Studentbund, NS-Frauenschaft, NSD-Dozentenbund) and the affiliated

1. Decree of 10 July 1937; RGBl I S. 769; cf. also Interrogation of Karl Hermann Frank, former Secretary of State with the "Reichsprotektor Boehmen und Maehren," 29 May 1945; on file with War Crimes Commissioner

organizations (Angeschlossenen Verbände) of the Party, with regard to matters of administration and finance, organization, personnel, training, propaganda, press, health, and foreign affairs, were supervised by the Reich Treasurer, the Reich Organization Leader (Main Office for Organization, Main Office for Personnel, Main Office for Training), the Reich Propaganda Leader, the Reich Press Chief, the Main Office for Public Health and the Foreign Organization of the Party, respectively. According to Nazi definition[1] this type of surveillance ensured " a firm anchorage of all organizations within the Party structure and, in all regions of Party sovereignty, a firm liaison with the bearers of sovereignty of the Party, in keeping with the leadership principle." In practice, the principle of subordination and coordinationwas a double check device which reduced the power of the leaders of (affiliated) organizations in the interest of the all-powerful "bearers of sovereignty" (Hoheitsträger) of the Party, i.e. the Führer, the Gauleiter, the Kreisleiter, the Ortsgruppenleiter, the Zellenleiter, and the Blockleiter, each of whichwas and must remain sovereign within his sphere of jurisdiction. Subordination and coordination, for once, guaranteed the political prerogatives of members of the Party hierarchy and left to leaders and members of affiliated organizations merely limited powers.

Moreover, the control of these organizations in some of their most vital functions, e.g. finance, personnel, and propaganda, was intended to safeguard the monopoly of the Party in these fields and to stifle any attempt

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1. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943 p. 88.

by these groups at independent action.

Finally, the principle of subordination and coordination supplied the pattern for the application of similar policies outside the framework of Party and Movement. It helped prepare the ill-famed policy of "Gleichschaltung," i.e. synchronization of all orga izations outside the Party with the principles established and executed by and within the Party. Highlights of this policy are the Law for the Restoration of a Professional Civil Service (Gesetz zur Wiederherstellung des Berufsbeamtentums) of 7 April 1933,[1] the Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honor (Gesetz zum Schutze des deutschen Blutes und der deutschen Ehre) of 15 September 1935,[2] and the Reich Citizenship Law (Reichsbürgergesetz) of the same date. These laws formed the cornerstones of a policy which found its consummation in the introduction of the Arierparagraph, i.e. the principle of membership on racial grounds, in governmental, professional, and commercial agencies and organizations.

Furthermore, subordination and coordination within the Party set the precedent for the integration of government agencies, functionally, under the direction of Party agencies. Specifically, in such cases where identity of incumbents of Party office and the Government office had not been realized, e.g. the Foreign Office, activities of the governmental office

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1. RGBl I, p. 175.
2. RGBl I, p. 1146.
3. RGBl I, p. 1133, 1146.

would be examined by the corresponding Party agency, i.e. The Foreign Organization of the Party.

In sum, the principle of subordination and coordination helped institute and enforce the

> "division of the German citizenry on a racial basis and discrimination against those who were adjudged not to be of German blood."

By implementing the leadership principle from a functional angle, it contributed to the "establishment and perpetuation of Nazi control through the total execution of the Führer principle."

3. Regional Unification. (Regional and Vertical Control). The so-called regional or vertical controls of the Party constitute the backbone of the Party structure. While functional controls may be subject to change, the P Party Manual stipulates that the regional controls as the so-called "chief pillars of the Party remain forever immune". (Die Grundpfeiler der Partei werden jedoch immer unangetastet bleiben).[1] The regional controls ensure the extension of the leadership principle and of the principle of subordination and coordination to the lower levels of the Party hierarchy. These regional and local controls are exercised by the so-called "bearers of sovereignty"(Hoheitsträger) who, in turn, are in charge of the so-called "regions of sovereignty" (Hoheitsgebiete). Hoheitsträger are the Führer, the Gauleiter, the Kreisleiger, the Ortsgruppenleiter, the Zellenleiter, and the Blockleiter. Their function is an internal one, namely to supervise all Party offices within the area of their

1. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 88

jurisdiction, as well as an external one, namely to represent the Party toward the outside. In addition, however, the Hoheitsträger are responsible for the "total political situation within the area of sovereignty" "verantwortlich für die gesamtpolitische Lage in ihrem Hoheitsgebiet".[1] "Regional unification" thus was conceived not merely as a principle of local control for and within the Party, but also as a means of extending the authority of the Party through its Hoheitsträger to non-Party members by virtue of sheer physical accessibility. The Party Manual expressed it this way:

> "It is the intention of the Party to make sure that the individual member of the community, male or female, find his (or her) way to the Party not merely in cases of emergency, but that the Party on its own initiative, in keeping with the will of the Führer, recruits and supervises continually all members of the community, male and female." ("Es ist die Absicht der Partei, zu erreichen, dass der einzelne Volksgenose und die Volksgenossin nicht nur in Notfällen den Weg zur Partei findet, sondern dass die Partei durch eigene Initiative entsprechend dem Willen des Führers laufend alle Volksgenossen und Volksgenossinnen erfasst und betreut."[2]

The principle of regional control thus had four major effects: firstly, in concentrated authority within the Party in the persons of the most reliable leaders, the Hoheitsträger, thereby creating a solid and ubiquitous chain of command; secondly, by placing control on the basis of locale rather than organization, it brought all non-Party members under Party control irrespective of membership in organizations affiliated with,

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1. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 88.
2. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 98 a.

or otherwise controlled by, the Party; thirdly, it established the Party Hoheitsträger as the supreme political commander within his area of jurisdiction; fourthly, by assimilating the regional sub-divisions to that of the government, the Party facilitated the amalgamation of Party offices with the corresponding governmental offices. It thus prepared the ground for the development which led to the bureaucratic identity of the office of Gauleiter with that of the Provincial President in Prussia. Furthermore, it facilitated the appointment of the Kreisleiter as so-called Delegates of the Party in matters of municipal administration.[1] Above and beyond this the principle of regional control contributed to the gradual emasculation of government administration and to the demoralization of the German civil service. In sum, it, too, helped prepare

> "the establishment of rigid internal control (by the Party) over the government and all its agencies..."

4. Manifestation of an Active Community Spirit (Mass Control). The purpose of this principle was to prevent the establishment of corporative controls by professional organizations on a functional basis. The leadership principle abolished parliamentary controls, thereby preventing political competition by elected bodies; subordination and coordination secured organizational control of the Party proper over all Party affiliated, controlled and annexed organizations, thereby preventing organizational autonomy of any group outside the party proper; regional unification

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1. Reich Order for Municipalities [Reichsgemeindeordnung] of 30 January 1935, RGBl I, p. 49, and executive Order of 26 March 1935, RGBl I, p. 470.

extended Party control to all persons, organized and unorganized, on the basis of physical accessibility, thereby preventing the escape of the individual from Party control. The manifestation of an active community spirit added the principle of mass control by diluting the purpose of professional organization -- as realized in the affiliated and controlled organizations and in the German Labor Front (DAF) -- and by placing in its stead the "folk community" (Volksgemeinschaft) as realized in the family, the place of work (Arbeitsstatte), the place of leisure (Freizeit), the community (Gemeinde), and the nation (Volk). The principle of dissolving the people into a - political groupings, i.e. actually into an amorphous mass of individuals, was derived from the conception that "it is fundamentally wrong to organize human beings on functional grounds"[1]. Consequently, the affiliated organizations of the Party were reduced to cadres in which Volksgemeinschaft became a matter of "practical drilling." ("Praktisches Exerzieren dieser Gemeinschaft."[2] As far as labor was concerned, "the Party, in defiance of the idea of corporative controls, as propagated by Ottmar Spann, has attacked the problem of community spirit in the area of human organization and has solved it by creating the National Socialist community organization 'German Labor Front'."[3]

The principle of mass control, more than any other, has thus contributed to the continued emasculation of labor and of the professions as

1. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 91.
2. Ibid
3. Ibid

political forces and as social groups entitled to the right of self-representation and privileges inherent in their status. In sum, the principle of mass control helped prepare and exploit

"the destruction of all political resistance to the Nazi system," specifically,

"the elimination of the trade unions."

B. The Means of Control

To achieve domination of public life and to maintain itself in power the National Socialist Party employed and developed a number of devices which, although not always crimes in themselves, prepared for the perpetration of crimes or developed into crimes through the manner in which they were appli d. The key devices used by the Nazis as means of political conquest and domination were:

1. Indoctrination
2. Propaganda
3. Infiltration and Intervention
4. Aggression and Terror

Although planned, inaugurated, and directed by the core of the Nazi hierachy, the actual employment of these means was delegated to specific technical offices within the Party proper, i.e. notably the Reich Directorate of the Party (Reichsleitung), or to formations and organizations affiliated with, or controlled by, the Party.

1. Indoctrination. According to Hitler's definition[1] the National Socialist Party, from its earliest beginnings, intended to be a "genuinely ideological Party" ("eine wahrhaftige Weltanschauungspartei"), that is to say, a Party founded not on the similarity of economic and social interests or religions beliefs, but on a basic outlook on life which is "correct" (Hitler[2]: "Die Nationalsozialistische Partei.....nimmt bei der Betrachtung und Behandlung der ihr gestellten Lebensaufgaben einen Standpunkt ein, der, abstrakt genommen, richtig ist"). The privilege of being the owner of the "correct" outlook, in turn, bestows on the Party as an "order of Leaders" the right and the

1. Nuremberg Party Congress, 1934, o . cit. p. 204
2. Ibid

duty to propagate its ideology so as to make it the foundation of national education, and through this, the matrix of political leadership. In the words of a Party spokesman:

> "Since the Party is called upon to form an organization through which a political elite of the nation shall be continuously recruited to all eternity, the Party is also in duty bound to ensure that the State be led on the ground of a stable philosphy. In fulfillment of this historical imperative, the Party must create an organization that assures the stability of the leadership in the State by the right selection, training and orientation of the leaders of the State. The Party must, in this, act on the principle that all Germans should be brought up in the Weltanschauung of National Socialism; that the best of the National Socialists become members of the Party; that the best Party members take the lead in the State. Thus shall the organization of the Party provide the German State in the future with a supreme general leadership; thus shall its educational activities provide a foundation for this National Socialist State in a National Socialist nation."[1]

As regards the objects of indoctrination, the will of the Party to educate was all-inclusive and permanent. It included not merely the Party but the German people as a whole. It was not thought of as a temporary type of training but as a life-long service. To realize this objective, the Party directed its efforts at the recruitment of the German youth. In his speech of 12 February 1938 Hitler declared:

> "Our youth will be educated to think and act as Germans. After having been educated in the organizations of the Party they will get the final polish when entering the Army. When leaving the military service, they will again join the SA, the SS and our other organizations so that they will not drift off again. They will, in fact, as long as they live, never again be free."

1. Deutscher Beamten Kalender, p. 81

As regards sources of indoctrination, the will of the Party to educate was exclusive. It did not permit of any other authority, e.g. parental home, church, political group, to introduce a competing system of thought or values. Walter Schultze, former leader of the League of University Teachers, once insisted:[1]

> "The new generation to be educated in the colleges for training of teachers is to be chosen exclusively from the ranks of the Hitler Youth and the BDM (League of German Girls)".

As regards subject matter the will of the Party to educate was total. It implied the teaching of National Socialist principles in the following fields: internal policies, foreign policies, science of race and inheritance, economic and social policies, history, geopolitics, cultural politics, and others.[2] Some Nazi leaders and intellectuals have added to these subjects the exact sciences. Reich Student Leader Scheel, in a lecture to professors and instructors at Hamburg, on 30 April 1938, stated categorically:

> "Science is not yet National Socialistic. But it must become so, if the universities are to continue to exist."[3]

Finally, as regards the content of indoctrination, the will of

1. Meeting of NS Lecturers at Elster, 5 March 1938. Quoted in "Nazi Guide to Nazism," published by the American Council on Public Affairs, p. 147.
2. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 181 a lists under "Aufgabengebiet des gesamten weltanschaulich-politischen Ausrichtung" the following: "Einzelgebiete.: Vermittlung nationalsozialistischer Grundsatze auf den Gebietem der Innenpolitik, Aussenpolitic, Rassen-und Vererbungslehre, Wirtschafts-und Sozialpolitik, Geschichte, Geopolitik, Kulturpolitik usw."
3. Nazi Guide to Nazidom, p. 140

of the Party to educate was highly onesided. According to the Party Manual:

> "The Party was created by the Führer with the purpose in mind that if our nation shall live and flourish, it must be led according to a Weltanschauung which corresponds to our kind. (die unserer Art entspricht)"[1]

The chief objective of this Weltanschauung was not to communicate knowledge but to help build body and character: In Mein Kampf Hitler stated[2]

> "The folkish State....has to direct its entire education primarily not at pumping in mere knowledge, but at the breeding of absolutely healthy bodies. Of secondary importance is the training of mental abilities. But here again first of all the development of the character, especially the promotion of will power and determination, connected with education for joyfully assuming responsibility, and only as the last thing, scientific schooling."

Ultimately the pre ominance of physical and of character education had political implications. For again according to Hitler:

> "It is precisely our German people, that today broken down, lies defenseless against the kicks of the rest of the world who need that suggestive force that lies in self-confidence. But this self-confidence has to be instilled into the young fellow-citizen from childhood on. His entire education and development has to be directed at giving him the conviction of being absolutely superior to others. With this physical force and skill he has again to win the belief in the invincibility of his entire nationality. For what once led the German army to victory was the sum of the confidence which the individual and all in common had in their leaders. The confidence in the possibility of regaining its freedom is what will restore the German people. But this conviction be the final product of the same feeling of millions of individuals."[3]

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1. Organizationsbuch der NSDAP. 1943, p. 86.
2. Op. cit. p. 613 ff.
3. Mein Kampf p. 618

The virtues through which such confidence can be acquired were defined as "loyalty, willingness to sacrifice, and silence."

The Nazi system of education can thus be summarized as follows: Instillment, by the Party, in each German of a feeling of uncritical belief in his own physical superiority over the rest of the world in order to regain the political status lost in the last war. Hitler's thesis that the folkish state "has to put the race into the center of life in general"[1] has been frequently interpreted as a matter of merely domestic concern. Actually, it constitutes, to no lesser degree, the basis of aggressive nationalism and Nazi imperialism. Hitler himself gave this implication away in Mein Kampf when he stated:

> "For the rest, it is the task of a folkish State to see to it that at last a world history is written in which the race question is raised to a predominant position."[2]

The following authorities, agencies and organizations were responsible for the indoctrination of allpersons and groups organized within, or controlled by, the National Socialist Party.

The Reichsorganisationsleiter (Reich Leader for Organization) through the Hauptschulungsamt (Main Office for Training), and the agencies and schools under its supervision;

the Hauptamt für Erzieher (Main Office for Educators)

the NS Lehrerbund (NS League of Teachers)

the Beauftragte des Führers fur die Uberwachung der gesamten geistigen und weltanschaulichen Schulung und Erziehung der NSDAP (The Delegate of the Führer for the Total Supervision of all Intellectual and Ideological Training of the Party), and

the zuständigen Dienststellen der Gliederungen (the special offices within the Party formations.

1. Ibid., p. 608
2 p. 630

The chief institutes of indoctrination were:

the Ordensburgen
the Reichsschulungsburgen
the Adolf-Hitler-Schulen
the Nationalpolitische Erziehungsanstalten (NAPOLA)
the Deutsche Heimschulen, and

the various technical schools attached to individual Party formations and affiliates.

At a relatively late stage, Nazi indoctrination was instituted within the Armed Forces as a means of maintaining or strengthening troop morale. The task was assigned to the so-called Nationalsozialistische Führungsoffiziere who were directly subordinated to the Supreme Commander, Hitler, but had their supervisory offices within each of the three service commands, Army, Navy and Air Force.

2. Propaganda. In Nazi theory propaganda is the psychological means for the attainment of power. Better still, it is the strategic prerequisite without which the Party cannot hope to operate successfully. In Mein Kampf[1] Hitler defined the correlation of propaganda and political organization as follows:

> "The task of propaganda is to attract followers; the task of organization to win members.....
>
> "Propaganda and organization - that means followers and members - have thus a definite mutual relationship.....
>
> "The first task of propaganda is the winning of people for the future organization; the first task of the organization is the winning of people for the continuation of propaganda. The second task of propaganda is the destruction of the existing condition and the permeation of this condition with the new doctrine, while the second task of the organization must be the fight for power, so that by it it will achieve the final success of the doctrine.

1. p. 560 ff

Goebbels, chief propagandist of the Nazi system, once described the objective of propaganda as "the conquest of the masses".[1] More specifically, the aim is "to acquaint the people with certain ideas in such a way that they yield voluntarily and without inner resistance to the tasks and aims implied in the ideas of a superior leadership of the State.[2] Hadamowsky, Goebbels' chief of staff, expressed the same idea somewhat less subtly. Propaganda, according to him is "the will to power." The aim of propaganda is "the elimination of all serious resistance in the masses in order that they may be provided with bread on the basis of the national will of the masses devoted to the cause."[3]

The same lack of scruples in the use of propaganda as a political instrument is apparent in the formulation of propaganda content. Again according to Hitler:[4]

> "The task of propaganda is, for instance, not to evaluate the various rights, but far more to stress exclusively

1. Kampf um Berlin, p. 91
2. Goebbels in Propaganda als Mittlerin, quoted in an article "Goebbels' Conception of Propaganda," published on pages 200-218 in Social Research, Quarterly of Political and Social Science, publisho by the New School for Social Research, Volume 10, May 1943, Number 2. The same idea was expressed by Goebbels at the Nuremberg Party Congress, 1934: "Die Propaganda ist ein Mittel zum Zweck. Der Zweck selbst aber besteht darin, das Volk in die Erkenntnis, die ihm zum Verstaendnis nahe gebracht werden soll, so einzufuehren, dass es sich willig und ohne inneres Widerstreben den darin eingeschlossenen Aufgaben und Zielsetzungen einer ueberlegnen Staatsfeuhrung hingibt." in "Der Kongress zu Nurnberg, 1934" p. 131.
3. Propaganda und Nationale Macht, p. 37, quoted in Social Research.
4. Mein Kampf, p. 236

> the one that is represented by it. It has not to search into the truth as far as this is favorable to others, in order to present it then to the masses with doctrinary honesty, but it has rather to serve its own truth uninterruptedly..."

Goebbels' permanent fight against the German sense of "super-objectivity" was dictated by the same principles. He stated:

> "Today we have no time for false objectivity..we regard it as a danger and a threat .... Fairness comes only in relation to our own people... Today the most radical fanaticism and the most violent passion for our great cause is the proper attitude for us...."[1]

In the light of these definitions propaganda became not only an instrument of political conquest but also of continued political control. According to Goebbels:

> "It was the strongest weapon in the conquest of the State, it remains the strongest weapon in the consolidation and building up of the State. What in many ways remained un-understandable to the world was a matter of course for us. The weapon by which we conquered the State has to remain...in the service of the state, lest, with power, we run the danger of losing the people and with the people, the power."[2]

It is this continued need for permanent control which accounts for the transfer and the incorporation of the Party Propaganda machine into the government apparatus. Through the Propaganda Ministry the various propaganda offices of the Party extended and consolidated their grip on the German people. The chief propaganda offices within the Party were:

Der Reichspropagandaleiter der NSDAP (The Reich Propaganda Leader of the Party) and offices subordinate to him

1. Das Reich, 27 November 1942
2. Propaganda als Mittlerin, quoted in Social Research

Der Reichspressechef der NSDAP (The Reich Press Chief of the Party) and the offices subordinate to him.

Der Reichsleiter für die Presse (The Reich Leader of the Press)

Die Parteiamtliche Prüfungskommission zum Schutze des NS Schrifttums (The Party Commission for the Protection of Part Literature).

3. Infiltration and Intervention. German infiltration into non-German territory and German intervention in non-German affairs served the following purposes: they established Pan-Nazism as a rallying point for all individuals who were recognized as being German by race, i.e. irrespective of present citizenship, place of birth, or domicile; they helped to propagate National Socialism abroad; they helped organize the network for an international intelligence and espionage system preparatory to aggressive action; they supplied the pattern and cadres for occupation controls prior to the actual annexation or occupation of the territories in question, and they prepared the ground for a revision of the world political status quo including large-scale transfers of territories and populations to Germany.

As a device to foster and spread Pan-Nazism, infiltration had its ideological foundation in Article 1 of the Party Program, which stated:

> "We demand the union (Zusammenschluss) of all Germans to form a Greater Germany, on the basis of the right of self-determination enjoyed by all nations (auf Grund des Selbstbestimmungsrechts der Völker)."

The implications of this demand became more distinct in a speech delivered by Dr. Steinacher, the former leader of the VDA (League for Germandom Abroad), who stated at the meetings of the VDA in Passau, 1938:

> "The fight of the Germans abroad has taken on an entirely new significance.... Between the Germans within and those outside of the State there is no difference of rank but only a difference of function. Every German folk-group in the world, out of its own peculiar life, out of its own special geographic and cultural situation, will in the future have to collaborate in a common European task and a world task of Germandom. These functions will be very different. In one place, the German folk-group will have to be a wall against foreign claims. In another place, they will be bridges, and in a third place, factors bringing about an alliance..."
>
> "The aim of our work is the maintenance of the race outside of our borders. This work cannot be isolated from the life of the Germans within our borders. Borders can separate the life of states but not the life of a people.."[1]

In similar vein, Gauleiter Bohle, leader of the Foreign Organization of the Party, speaking at the Nuremberg Party Congress, 1938, defined the character of international Germanism as follows:

> "We German National Socialists abroad start in our work from the basic premise that there is no 'question' of foreign Germanism but that our Germanism abroad is composed of individual Germans who can only live as Germans if they form among themselves an indestructible community and if this community is incorporated in the community which Adolf Hitler has given the racial comrades in the Reich. We believe in the eternal value of the race and the blood and we feel ourselves the appointed protectors of these values in foreign Germanism..."[2]

Membership in this folk-community was defined as follows:

1. Quoted in Der Nationalsozialistische Staat, Walter Gehl, Part I p. 215 ff.
2. Der Parteitag der Ehre, 1938, Official Report, published by Zentral Verlag der NSDAP, pp. 124-131

> "The German folk-community includes not only all those who are members of the NSDAP, it includes all who by origin, language, and culture belong to the German folk-community and in accordance with the rigid law of nature acknowledge their allegiance to the German folk-community. The German folk-community includes therefore not only the members of the folk within the German borders but those everywhere in the world, without regard to residence or temporary place of abode, without regard to class and profession, and also without regard to what former political direction or party the individual may have formerly adhered to, and without regard to how the individual used to look at National Socialism and Adolf Hitler, at a time when he was not yet enlightened about the essence of National Socialism and the NSDAP, about Adolf Hitler and his intentions. The one and only presupposition is that the folk-member today pledges allegiance to the German folk-community and lets all his thinking, feeling, and acting be directed toward that which the flag of the German folk-community, the flag of the National Socialist German Reich, the Adolf Hitler flag commands him."[1]

The idea of the racial community not only created a double allegiance for all "racial Germans" living abroad and having acquired a foreign citizenship; it also established the priority of racial stock above political loyalty. According to Gauleiter Bohle,

> "We acknowledge only the concept of the total German who as a citizen of his country is always and everywhere German and nothing but German and therewith National Socialist."[2]

German race, according to Nazi theory and practice, created a type of allegiance that cannot be lost through physical distance or political changes. The legal consequences have been considerable.

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1. Fritz Reinhard, Vom Wesen der Volksgemeinschaft (published in Grundlagen, Aufbau und Wirtschaftsordnung des nationalsozialistischen Deutschen Staates, Berlin, 1936), vol. I, group 1, no. 8, pp. 1,2,12.
2. Deutsches Nachrichtenbüro, 30 August 1937, reporting Bohle's speech at the Annual Assembly of the Germans Living Abroad.

One of the most significant legal developments in the field of international intervention was the conclusion of so-called "Volksgruppenschutzverträge", i.e. treaties for the protection of folk-group. They made the German folk-grpup abroad "legal persons" according to public law and the Party group the "executive organ" of the folk-group.[1]

The political, legal, and psychological changes brought about by the propagation of Pan-Nazism are, admittedly, the work of the Party. According to Nazi legal theoreticians,

> "The present legal position of foreign Germans and of the foreign groups of the NSDAP has been decidedly influenced by the historical fact of the seizure of power by the Party."[2]

Hess boasted of it at the Fifth Assembly of Germans Living Abroad at Stuttgart, 29 August 1935:[3]

> "Under the leadership of the Foreign Organization Germandom abroad is also becoming more and more filled with the National Socialist spirit. The Foreign Organization of the NSDAP has brought together the Germans out there...and joined them with dolf Hitler's Reich. The National Socialist care for Germandom is maintaining an enormous number of Germans for the nation, who otherwise would be absorbed as cultural fertilizer for other nations."

Propaganda remained one or the most outstanding functions of Party agencies operating abroad. The stated task of the Foreign Organization of the Party was that of

> "winning the German citizens who live abroad or are engaged in navigation for the National Socialist view of the world and....

1. cf. Agreement of 23 October 1940 between the Rumanian Legionary State and the German folk-group, published in Nationalsozialistische Monatshefte, December 1940, p. 803. published in "National Socialist", p. 471.
2. Otto Gauweiler, Rechtseinrichtungen und Rechtsaufgaben der Bewegung, p. 71 ff.
3. Published in "National Socialism", p. 103

keeping alive in every

> keeping alive in every single German abroad the principle of the racial community, which transcends all classes and religious denominations."[1]

For this reason Gauleiter Bohle wrote in the Almanach der Nationalsozialistischen Revolution:

> "Only National Socialists who are ideologically well grounded can unite the German colonies, which outside of the homeland are often still divided, and create a unity in which alone the guaranty for support of the homeland by foreign Germandom can be given...
>
> "Therefore we need Party members abroad who have mastered our ideology and who are able to communicate it to other Germans. We know that Germans abroad are still in part cool to the movement because they do not know what they want. The education of racial comrades who still stand apart has, therefore, been made a special task of the group leaders abroad, and it is pointed out to them that there are still many Germans abroad who are not friendly toward us...."[2]

As regards the intelligence function of the Party, Ehrich, personal adviser to Bohle, in his monograph on the Foreign Organization of the Party chose the following form of circumscribing activities of this type:

> "The diversity of conditions abroad requires that the Central Office of the Foreign Organization have offices which, on the one hand, are continuously and precisely informed concerning all events abroad which are in any way connected with and exert influence upon the existence of foreign Germandom, and which, on the other hand, must be in a position politically to determine and carry out the work of the Party divisions and organizations associated in the Foreign Organization and the activities of

1. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1940, p. 143.
2. Almanach der Nationalsozialistischen Revolution, Berlin, 1934, pp. 90 ff.

the departments which are charged with functions not limited to specific geographic regions."[1]

Finally, statements by German occupation authorities reveal that political groups organized by the Party prior to occupation were later incorporated bodily in such official groups as the SS.[2]

Infiltration tactics designed to stir up interest in Pan-Nazism abroad and to unite all Germans under racial viewpoints were ultimately directed at a revision of political status quo which rested on the Versailles Treaty. Article 2 of the Party Program stated:

"We demand equality of rights for the German people in its dealings with other nations and abolition of the peace treaties of Versailles and St. Germain."

Hitler elaborated this demand as follows:

"What we have to fight for is the security of the existence and the increase of our race and our people, the nourishment of its children and the preservation of the purity of the blood, the freedom and independence of the fatherland in order to enable our people to mature for the fulfillment of the mission which the Creator of the universe has allotted also to them."[3]

From here it was merely a short step to the demand for "Lebensraum" (living space). Article 3 of the Party Program added it:

"We demand land and territory (colonies) for the nourishment of our people and for settling our superfluous population."

The demand for Lebensraum is an integral part of the Party Program and belonged to the perenially repeated postulates of Nazi

1. Dr. Emil Ehrich, Die Auslands-Organisation der NSDAP, 1940, p. 17.
2. cf. report by SS Group Leader, State Secretary, Karl Hermann Frank, "The SS on March 15, 1939," published in Boehmen und Maehren, official periodical of the Reich Protector of Bohemia and Moravia. Also published in "National Socialism", p. 465.
3. Mein Kampf pp. 288-89

foreign policy. In Hitler's own words:

> "The right to soil and territory can become a duty if decline seems to be in store for a great nation unless it extends its territory."[1]

In the years preceding the outbreak of the war, Party agencies operating abroad or dabbling in the field of foreign policy frequently supplied the platform for Nazi claims to "lost" territories or populations. Rudolf Hess, addressing the Sixth Assembly of Germans Living Abroad, on 28 August 1937, in Stuttgart, used the occasion as a springboard for intervention in the then burning Czechoslovakian issue, stating:

> "The German people looks at the German racial comrades in Czechoslovakia with the profoundest sympathy for their suffering. No one in the world, who loves his own people, will find fault with us, if from this place here we also turn our thoughts to the Sudeten Germans.... You in Sudetenland know: We stand by you with passionate hearts. The right of three and one-half million German men lies with you, the right of millions of members of a great people to conduct their life and so to shape it as adherence to this people of culture demands."[2]

But it was only after the outbreak of the war that Nazi leaders openly employed Party agencies, formations, and affiliated organizations to carry out a grand-scale policy of compulsory relocation, repatriation and elimination of populations.

The main Party organizations chiefly engaged in the tactics of international infiltration and intervention were:

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1. Mein Kampf, p. 950
2. Der Montag, Berlin Daily, 29 August, 1938; published in "National Socialism", p. 110.

Hauptamt für Volkstumsfragen
(Main Office for Folkdom)
Aussenpolitisches Amt der NSDAP
(Foreign Office of the Party)
Kolonialpolitisches Amt
(Colonial Office)
Auslands-Organization der NSDAP
(Foreign Organization of the Party)
Arbeitsbereiche der NSDAP
(Spheres of Operation of the Party)
Deutsche Arbeitsfron
(German Labor Front)

Organizations and agencies of Party formations and affiliates operating outside Germany proper, e.g. SS:

Hauptstelle für Volkische Schutzarbeit
(Central Bureau of protective Measures for Racial Germans)
Amt Zwischenstaatlicher [illegible] und Einrichtungen
(Office for SS-related Formations and Establishments Abroad)
Hauptamt Volksdeutsche Mittelstelle
(Main Office for Repatriation of Germans)
Stabshauptamt des Reichskommissars für die Festigung des Deutschen Volkstums
(Staff HQ. of the Reich Commissioner for the Consolidation of Germanism)
VDA - Volksbund für das Deutschtum im Ausland
(German League for Germandom Abroad)
Regional Sections of the
HJ - Hitler Youth
SA - Schutz Abteilung
NSKK - National Socialist Motor Corps
Party-sponsored and Party-controlled organization, e.g.
Deutsches Ausland Institut
(German Foreign Institute)

and other pseudo-scientific institutes, international cultural associations, etc.

4. Aggression and Terror. The use of force as a means of political strategy is a vital feature not only of National Socialist ideology but of the National Socialist Party and Movement. It is indissolubly bound up with a system which proposed to change the political, economic

and territorial status quo, regardless of the interests of groups of nations opposing such objectives. On the surface, the use of force appears as another means designed to effect Nazi conquest and Nazi domination. Actually, all other means instrumental to conquest and domination, e.g. indoctrination, propaganda, and infiltration, implied the use of force, not merely as ultima ratio but as the means essential to the pursuit of Nazi objectives, and inevitable from the point of view of Realpolitik. In fact, all other means of Nazi strategy were not intended to supplement but to prepare, step by step, psychologically, politcall , and militarily, the eventual application of force.

Historicall , force in Nazi strategy emerges alternately in two forms: as aggression and as terror, aggression being the means by which conquest is achieved, terrorbeing the means by which conquest is secured and exploited. In turn, aggression and terro taught aggressiveness. They created a predisposition conducive to the application or toleration of aggression and terror on the part of the German people. Thus, the use of force is distinctly sanctioned, in fact guaranteed, by all official statements which make activism and aggressiveness a political quality obligatory for Party members. According to Hitler:

> "A follower of the Movement is one who delcares himself in agreement with its aims;a member is one who fights for it..."[1]

1. Mein Kampf, p. 849

Consequently, membership in the Party must be reserved for the political activists:

> "Only a part of the people will consist of really active fighters. It is they who were the carriers of the National Socialist struggle. It is they who were the fighters of the National Socialist revolution, and it is they who are the keepers of the National Socialist State. Of them more is demanded than of the millions among the rest of the population. For them it is not sufficient to confess: 'I believe,' but to swear: 'I fight'."[1]

In keeping with such requirements, the Manual of the Party stipulated:

> "The Party includes only fighters, who are ready to accept and sacrifice everything in order to carry through the National Socialist ideology."
> (Es gibt in der Partei .. nur Kämpfer, bereit, alles für die Durchsetzung der nationalsozialistischen Weltanschauung auf sich zu nehmen und alles einzusetzen.)[2]

Fight for the ational Socialist Weltanschauung is by no means to be understood in a mere academic sense. It is not restricted to political discussion, but implies resort to physical force as a legitimate means of political strategy. The Party Manual made it obligatory for every political leader (Politische Leiter) of the Party to undergo training in pistol shooting.[3] According to Hitler's own words, the use of force, far from contradicting the use of spiritual weapons, supplements these, in fact is contingent upon the existence of a strong ideology. For,

> "The lack of a great, new creative idea means at all times a limitation of the fighting power. The conviction of the

1. Hitler, Nuremberg Party Congress, 1934. op cit, p. 211.
2. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 86
3. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p 162 a.

> justification of using even most brutal weapons is always dependent on the presence of a fanatical belief in the necessity of the victory of a revolutionary new order on this globe.
>
> "A movement which does not fight for such highest aims and ideals will therefore never take the ultimate weapon."[1]

As regards the Nazi Movement, the ideological justification for the use of force was stated to lie "in the endeavor to establish an organic folk-state."[2]

> "Thereby, from the first day on, the young Movement upheld the view that its idea can be represented spiritually, but that the protection of this representation has to be secured, if necessary, by means of physical power."[3]

This statement is contained in the chapter which familiarises the reader with "Fundamental Thoughts on the Meaning and Organization of the Storm Troop," i.e. the SA.

In the early days of the Nazi Party, the application of force was a strategic complement of Nazi propaganda. It was conceived of and employed as a means to secure "the conquest of the streets." Secret murder was replaced by open terror. Hitler postulated:

> "What we needed and what we need, were and are not a hundred or two hundred daring plotters, but a hundred thousand and again a hundred thousand fanatical fighters for our view of life. The work has to be done, not in secret conventicles, but in enormous mass demonstrations, and not by dagger and poison or pistol can the way be paved for the Movement, but by the conquest of the streets. We have to drive home to Marxism that the future master of the streets will be National Socialism, exactly as some day it will be the master of the State."[4]

Once in power, the need for the use of force continued, as a means of the Party to maintain itself in authority. For, according

1. Hitler, Mein Kampf, p. 784
2. Mein Kampf, p. 786
3. Ibid.
4. Mein Kampf, p. 798

to Hitler:

> "In power..that means in force, we see the second foundation of all authority (the first being "popularity")."[1]

Describing, in retrospect, the tasks and achievements of the Party, which ensured total domination of domestic life, Hitler on the eleventh anniversary of the seizure of power declared:

> "The appeal to reason had to be supplemented with ruthless elimination of the viciously resisting elements in all camps."[2]

After total domination of public life inside Germany had been achieved, Nazi aggression turned toward the outside world. The objectives remained in keeping with the demands set forth earlier in Mein Kampf:

> "...we National Socialists must cling unflinchingly to our foreign-policy aims, that is, to guarantee the German nation the soil and territory to which it is entitled on this earth. And this is the only action which, before God and our German posterity, would seem to justify an investment of blood...."[3]

It is this postulate which finally led to the launching of aggressive wars.

Again, following the conquest of new territories by force, terror was the means applied by the Party and Party formations abroad to maintain Nazi authority in occupied and annexed territories. The nature of this terror is best exemplified in a speech by Himmler made at a conference of commanding officers of the Wehrmacht in Bad Schachen on 14 October 1943. The speech was published in a booklet "Sicherheitsfragen" marked "For official use only," and was reprinted in No. 1566 of the News Digest of 30 September 1944. In it Himmler, Reich Commissioner

1. Mein Kampf, p. 764
2. Speech on 30 January 1944, FCC files
3. Mein Kampf, pp. 947-8

for the Consolidation of German Folkdom, stated the principles of work with foreign populations in foreign (primarily Eastern) territories as follows:

> "Any means that induces these wild peoples to serve us and which results in a Russian dying instead of a German is justified...
>
> "Therefore I consider that in dealing with members of a foreign, especially some Slav, nationality (Volkstum) we must start not from German points of view and we must not endow these people with decent German thoughts and logical conclusions of which they are not capable, but we must take them as they really are.
>
> "Obviously in such a mixture of peoples there will always be some racially good types. Therefore I think that it is our duty to take their children with us, to remove them from their environment, if necessary by robbing and stealing them... Either we win over any good blood that we can use for ourselves and give it a place in our people or...we destroy this blood."

The overall purpose of this policy was defined by Himmler thus:

> "For us the end of this war will mean an open road to the East, the creation of the Germanic Reich in this way or that...the fetching home of 30 millions human beings of our blood, so that still during our lifetime we shall be a people of 120 million Germanic souls. That means we shall be the sole and decisive power in Europe..."

The chief terror organizations of the Nazi system were:

The SS, including the SS Security Service (SD), the Allgemeine SS, Waffen SS, Germanic SS, SS Totenkopf Verbände and the various offices and agencies subordinate to the Reichsfuehrer SS.
The SA
The HJ, in parts, particularly the HJ Streifendienst
The NSKK, in parts

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

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PRINCIPAL NAZI ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED IN THE COMMISSION OF WAR CRIMES

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THE NAZI PARTY

(Part III)

Draft for the Use of the War Crimes Staff

6 September 1945

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III. MAJOR PARTY OFFICES

Introductory Note: Criteria of Responsibility

Execution of the Nazis' over-all plan of political conquest and domination was the work of the various offices, agencies, and organizations incorporated in, or associated with, the Nazi Party. This included the major Party offices on the national, regional, and local levels, such as the Reichsleitung, the Gauleitung, the Kreisleitung, etc.; the Party formations, e.g., the SA, the SS, the HJ (Hitler Youth), etc.; the affiliated associations, e.g., the German Labor Front; and, to a lesser degree, the supervised organizations, e.g., the German Students' Society, etc.

Many of these agencies were implicated in a double sense. For one thing, they guaranteed the continued presence of certain principles of control and were therefore vitally responsible for the existence and operation of the over-all plan. In addition, they were either organized or used to translate specific parts of the over-all plan into action. By the same token, all voluntary members of these offices, agencies, or organizations will have to account for themselves on two levels of responsibility. Because of their membership in offices, agencies, or organizations charged with the perpetration of specific crimes, they are implicated ipso facto. Secondly, given sufficient evidence, they

most likely to be formulated at the top, with the offices on the lower level confining themselves to the execution of such policies. In fact, with the exception of the office of the Führer, no responsibility exercised by any one office was total or original. All authority was derived from the Führer and remained subject to recall by him. In evaluating the criminal responsibility of any office or officeholder, thus, consideration must be given to his position within the Nazi hierarchy. Reichsleiter and Gauleiter, naturally, carried higher responsibility than local and block leaders.

b. Sovereignty of office. Within the Party hierarchy certain offices maintained a higher degree of responsibility than others by virtue of the scope of their jurisdiction. This applies in particular to the so-called "Hoheitsträger" of the Party (bearers of sovereignty), i.e., those other than the Führer, the Gauleiter, the Kreisleiter, the Ortsgruppenleiter, the Zellenleiter, and the Blockleiter. They constituted the spine of the Party structure (die Grundpfeiler der Partei). They were, within their region of jurisdiction (the so-called Hoheitsgebiet), not only the superiors of all political leaders of the Party, of all Party officials, and of all leaders of affiliated organizations; they also constituted the supreme political authority as such. Consequently,

their responsibility for political acts committed in their Hoheitsgebiet should be rated higher than that of other Party officials working within the same area.

c. Departmentalization. In accordance with the hierarchical structure of the Nazi Party, responsibility for planning or executing policies was, in general, not shared. Party leaders and officials operating on the same functional level, e.g., Gauleiter, Kreisleiter, etc., would not arrive at political conclusions as a matter of common agreement but independently. Co-operative planning was rare. Concerted action, wherever apparent, would not necessarily be the result of decisions commonly arrived at, but of executive orders handed down from higher places. It has been reported (by Karl Hermann Frank, former State Minister in the Protectorate, interrogated on 29 May 1945) that a Führerbefehl (Führer's order), issued in the course of the war, established the functional isolation of all major offices in vital matters. This Führerbefehl prohibited under threat of severe penalties any office of the Party, armed forces, or government which had been entrusted with the execution of a confidential matter from communicating the contents to an office not officially involved in the same issue. This, however, does not exclude the possibility that the highest Party officials, including the Gauleiter, were kept informed of major decisions in the

political or military field. Nor does it clear the incumbent from the responsibility which he carries by reason of his membership in the particular office, agency, or organization.

This practice of segregating functional responsibilities led to extensive duplication of operations within the Nazi hierarchy, a duplication much of which was part of a deliberate policy of checking and counter-checking the activities of Party officials. On the other hand, it facilitated a high degree of specialization. Because of this, responsibility for specific crimes can (and should) be traced back to these Party offices and organizations to which such functions were definitely relegated, e.g., the Propaganda Department for incitement to illegal actions, the staff of Reichsleiter Rosenberg for the pillaging of cultural objects in occupied countries, etc.

d. Heterogeneity of Responsibilities. A number of offices and organizations within the Nazi movement did not constitute an organic entity within which each unit shared the responsibility for an over-all purpose. They presented instead a conglomeration of the most heterogenous functions haphazardly and arbitrarily assembled with no unifying element in evidence other than that of the person heading the office or organization. The Party Chancellery, for instance,

had a vital subdivision like the Sachbearbeiter für innere Parteiangelegenheiten (Official in Charge of Internal Party Affairs) and next to it another subdivision, unrelated and politically far less significant, the Hauptarchiv der NSDAP (Main Archives of the Party). The heterogeneity of functions assembled in individual offices was the inevitable weakness of a system in which individual office-holders by hook or crook tried to increase their authority through an accumulation of the most diverse responsibilities under their jurisdiction, notwithstanding the possibility of duplication with the programs of other offices. This fact, again, does not free the heads of the less important offices from the responsibility of having belonged to an organization engaged in the perpetration of specific war crimes, but it may have a bearing on the degree of their individual responsibility.

e. Party Affiliation. Membership in organizations affiliated with, supervised, or otherwise controlled by the Party did not require membership in the Party proper. While the leadership of these organizations was supplied by the Party, the members were frequently members by compulsion, and their activities often negligible from a political viewpoint. The function of the leadership, in turn, was restricted to the specific functions allotted to the organization, which varied in accordance with the importance of the purpose and

program. Consequently, crimes committed by Party-affiliated or controlled organizations should be traced back to the leadership of these organizations in accordance with the functions assigned to them, rather than to the members.

A. The Führer

The Führer held supreme authority within the Party. According to Party doctrine, "the will of the Führer is supreme law within the Party" (Der Wille des Führers ist oberstes Gesetz in der Partei).[1] All authority within the Party and the movement originated with that of the Führer. The "Führergewalt," i.e., the authority of the Führer, was the only legitimate source of all political power exercised within and without the Party and movement.[2]

The rise of the Party to political supremacy resulted in the elevation of the Führer of the Party to the highest office of the State. This development found its legal sanction in the law Concerning the Head of State of the German Reich (Gesetz über das Staatsoberhaupt des Deutschen Reiches) of 1 August 1934[3] which united the office of the Reich President with that of the Reich Chancellor. Through this

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1 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943.
2 Cf. Ernst Rudolf Huber, Verfassung, p. 118; cf. also chapter on Leadership Principle, pp. 8 ff.
3 RGBl. part I p. 747

law, according to the Party Manual, "Party and State leadership were placed in the same hands."[4] From then on, the Führer was responsible "solely to his conscience and to the German people."[5]

The significance of this merger lay in the following considerations. First, the occupation of the three supreme offices by the same officeholder did not amount to a more accumulation of their functions; it created a new office altogether. Nazi interpreters of constitutional law explained the amalgamation of the offices of chancellor and president in the person of the Führer as follows: "This is not a superficial grouping together of various offices, functions, and powers....It is not a union of offices but a unity of office. The Führer does not unite the old offices of Chancellor and President side by side within himself, but he fills a new, unified office...The Führer unites in himself all the sovereign authority of the Reich; all public authority of the State as well as in the movement is derived from the authority of the Führer. We must speak not of the State's authority but of the Führer's authority if we wish to designate correctly the character of the political authority within the Reich. The State does not hold political

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4 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943
5 Ibid.

authority as an impersonal unit but receives it from the Führer as the executor of the national will. The authority of the Führer is complete and all-embracing; it unites in itself all the means of political direction; it extends into all fields of national life; it embraces the entire people.."[6]

Secondly, the establishment of the office of Führer und Reichskanzler as an office sui generis, modeled on the authoritarian and totalitarian powers of Führer of the Party, modified constitutional provisions which restricted the functions of the Reich President and of the Reich Chancellor. It practically eliminated the principle of separation of powers. The Führer und Reichskanzler became the Chief Legislator, the Chief Executive, and the Chief Justice of the German Reich. The Führer issued statutes, decrees, and edicts.[7] The Führer appointed the civil service.[8] The Führer instituted the independent courts, assigned specific responsibilities to them, and protected their sphere of activity.[9] In cases of emergency, he prosecuted, sentenced,

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6 Huber, Verfassungsrecht des grossdeutschen Reiches, pp. 194-195.
7 Cf. Lammers' interrogation
8 German Civil Service Law, 26 January 1937; RGBl. I p. 39, 186; article 24
9 Huber, Verfassung, p. 153

and executed the criminal. This procedure was followed in the case of the Roehm putsch.

In defense of this last action Hitler stated on 13 July 1934: "If anyone reproaches me and asks me why I did not resort to the regular courts of justice -- I became the Supreme Justice of the German people."[10] In the language of Nazi constitutional lawyers:

> "All legislative power is derived from the will of the Führer....
>
> "Administrative sovereignty is once more immediately and unalterably that of the Führer....
>
> "The Führer....is the Supreme Justice of the people (der oberste Gerichtsherr des Volkes)...."[11]

Thirdly, the amalgamation of the office of Reich President and Reich Chancellor made the Führer, ex officio, supreme commander of the Armed Forces. In keeping with the expansive nature of his office, the Führer arrogated to himself "in person" the High Command of the Armed Forces (Decree Concerning the Command of the Armed Forces, 4 February 1938). This measure constituted the first important one in a series of inroads which ended with the domination of the armed forces by the Nazi Party. Further steps along the same line were the creation in 1940 of the Wehrmachtführungstab (Armed Forces

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10 My New Order, p. 275
11 Huber, Verfassung, pp. 123, 149, 151

Operational Staff), a Nazified version of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Hitler's assumption in 1941 of the High Command of the Army; the introduction in 1943 of the Nationalsozialistische Führungsoffiziere (National Socialist Guidance Officers); the gradual placing under Party auspices of important offices of the armed forces, e.g., part of Wehrwirtschafts und Riestungsamt (Economic and Armament Office) under the Speer Ministry and part of the Intelligence and Espionage Offices (Abwehr) under the Reichssicherheitshauptamt (Reich Main Security Office) of the SS; and the subordination in 1944 of the Ersatzheer (Replacement Army) under the command of Himmler. The gradual eclipse of the General Staff and the growing scope of Hitler's discretion, not only in matters of administration, but of strategy and tactics as well, has been described, with little evidence of fundamental disagreement, by a number of high German generals, including Guderian, Warlimont, Rundstedt, and Goering.[12]

The omnipotence of the Führer, as head of Party, government, and armed forces, was sanctioned, officially, by the resolution of the Reichstag of 26 April 1942.[13] This act reaffirmed the right of the Führer "claimed by him" "to do

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12 Cf. interrogations of these men, and also Semi-Weekly Intelligence Summary of 12th Army Group, esp. No. 9, 8 June 1945.

13 RGBl 1942, part I, p. 247

everything which serves or contributes to the attainment of victory."[14] This right implied complete subordination to the Führer of categories of officials who previously, by constitutional privilege or bureaucratic tradition, were removed from the discretion of the executive office, e.g., the judges and the officers of the Armed Forces. According to the resolution,

> "In his capacity as Führer of the nation, as Commander-in-Chief of the Army, as Head of the Government and Supreme Bearer of the Executive Authority, as Chief Judge, and as Führer of the Party, the Führer must therefore -- without being bound by existing legal principle -- be able at any time, if necessary, to urge any German to fulfill his obligations with all means which appear to him as appropriate."[15]

This right included, specifically, the power to remove from office anyone, i.e., a soldier or an officer, a high or low official or judge, an important or subordinate Party official, a manual laborer or a salaried employee. Thus,

> "In the case of dereliction of these duties he must, after a conscientious investigation, be able, without regard to so-called 'well-acquired' rights, to impose the fitting punishment - in particular, without introducing the prescribed procedure, to remove any man from his office, his rank, and his position."[16]

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14 Ibid.
15 Ibid.
16 Ibid.

Actually, this resolution merely epitomized a state of affairs which began after 1933. However, it contains the most authentic definition of the practically unlimited powers of the Führer.

On the strength of the above, it is possible to state that the office of the Führer was ultimately responsible for all major political and military decisions adopted within and outside the Party. This includes:

Legislative acts, e.g., the Nuremberg Laws of September 1935, which codified the exclusion of Jews from German citizenship.

The declaration and launching of aggressive wars.

The decree of 1 March 1942, which ordered the grand-scale pillaging of cultural treasures in occupied territories as part of "the systematic spiritual battle" against Jews, Freemasons, and other ideological opponents of the Third Reich.[17]

The Sonderbefehl (special order) of 1942 to level the village of Lidice even with the ground, to shoot the men, to send the women to concentration camps and the children to special educational establishments.[18]

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17 Copy of decree available in War Crimes Office.
18 Quoted in interrogation of Karl Hermann Frank, former State Secretary in Bohemia-Moravia.

The order of 18 October 1942 demanding the summary execution of Allied troops encountered during commando operations.

The supplementary order of 10 October 1944 extending the order of 1942 to include all Allied sabotage groups captured in the battle area.[19]

B. Die Kanzlei des Führers der NSDAP (The Chancellery of the Führer): (Former address: Berlin W8 Vossstrasse 4).

Chief of this office was Reichsleiter Philipp Bouhler.

The Chancellery of the Führer assists the Führer in matters involving his person and such patriarchal powers as were attributed to him -- e.g., sovereign authority over the

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19 Copies of these orders have been filed with the War Crimes Office. Their issuance is, in addition, substantiated by Dr. Kurt Behnke, a witness interrogated at HQ Third Army, Judge Advocate Section, APO 403; reference number of originating office 3 JA - 150; own file reference number I C B #3. Evidence, also, of the execution of these orders is filed with the War Crimes Office -- namely, the killing of members of the "Eagle Mission" (OSS) by the Gestapo; killing of members of the "Dane Mission" in Slovakia, OSS document #J/GC/507 (Accession #GCTS - 9); killing by SS and by armed forces of Allied fliers who parachuted into Yugoslavia, OSS A-48725 (FF 2641), OSS #012018; also report of the "Ginny" case, #100; see also State Department cables, files 6-23; 12-207 through 12-213, regarding killing of American military personnel after capture by German armed forces, quoting, inter alia, War Department, #875013, also E 91022; also killing of American PW's in concentration camp Mauthausen, WCC dissemination, Index 155, Witness: Zigmund Josef Marchol, 26 June 1945; further, the shooting of Allied PW's during Rundstedt offensive, OSS XL 11097.

life and death of Party members. The Chancellery of the Führer was in charge of all Party matters brought directly to the attention of the Führer, provided that they did not fall under the jurisdiction of another Party office.[20]

To discharge the above duties the Chancellery of the Führer was sub-divided into six so-called Hauptämter (Main Offices), namely:

Hauptamt I:	Personal Affairs of the Führer (Persönliche Angelegenheiten des Führers)
Hauptamt II:	Affairs of Party, State, and armed forces (Angelegenheiten aus Partei, Staat und Wehrmacht)
Hauptamt III:	Pardons (Gnadenangelegenheiten)
Hauptamt IV:	Economic and Social Affairs (Angelegenheiten wirtschaftlicher und sozialer Art)
Hauptamt V:	Personnel and Administrative Affairs (Personal und Verwaltungsangelegenheiten der Dienststelle)
Hauptamt VI:	Affairs concerning Science, Education, and Literature (Angelegenheiten aus Wissenschaft, Erziehung und Schrifttum)

Hauptamt I was also known as the Party Adjutancy (Parteiadjutantur). The Adjutants (Die persönlichen Adjutanten des Führers) were, in 1943-44:

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20 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 153

SS-GF Julius Schaub
Hauptamtsleiter NSKK-GF Albert Bormann
NSKK-BrF Alwin Albrecht
SS-HSF Fritz Darges
SS-HSF Richard Schulze
SS-HSF Hans Pfeiffer[21]

One of the major functions of these adjutants is presumed to have been that of personal service to the Führer. It is known that in addition, some of them enjoyed the confidence of the Führer in political matters as well. However, their function must not be confused with that of the staff which regularly assembled at the Führer's headquarters (Führerhauptquartier), where matters concerning the conduct of the war were discussed and decided.

The functions discharged by Hauptamt III were derived from the authority of the Führer as Chief Judge of the Party. As the Supreme bearer of sovereignty within the movement, he exercised the power of pardon in matters falling under the jurisdiction of Party courts.[22] This right obviously was delegated to the Chancellery of the Führer, together with the authority to grant or to deny pardon for Party members irrespective of whether they were condemned by Party or public courts, whenever petitions to this effect were

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21 Nationalsozialistisches Jahrbuch, 1944
22 Organizationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 152

"addressed by the people to the Führer." Exempt were such petitions as fell under the jurisdiction of other offices within the Reich Directorate of the Party.[23] The Chancellery of the Führer, thus, must be held responsible for cases in which guilty persons escaped punishment for reasons of political expediency or in which, for the same reasons, pardon was denied.

The nature of the various affairs handled by the other offices is not known in detail. It must be presumed that cases in which the Führer personally dealt with issues arising in the fields of personnel, social affairs, economics, science, education (such as appointments, promotions, and awards) were cleared through the respective office of the Chancellery of the Führer. It should be noted, however, that action was presumably not taken unless Party members or Party affairs were involved. The Chancellery of the Führer (Kanzlei des Führers), therefore, must not be confused with the Reich Chancellery (Reichskanzlei) nor with the Presidential Chancellery (Praesidialkanzlei), both of which were State offices assisting the Führer in his capacity as Reich Chancellor and Head of State, respectively.

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23 Nationalsozialistisches Jahrbuch, 1944, p. 182

C. The Partei-Kanzlei (Party Chancellery)

(Former address: Berlin W8 Wilhelmstrasse 63/64)

Chiefs of the Party Chancellery were Rudolf Hess, and after 1941, his Chief of Staff, Martin Bormann. The Partei-Kanzlei, according to official definition,[24] was the office of the Führer in his capacity as leader of the Party. Historically, this office was the successor of what was formerly called the office of the Stellvertreter des Führers (Deputy of the Führer), a position held solely by Rudolf Hess and officially discontinued after the flight of the only incumbent.

The Stellvertreter des Führers was appointed after the Nazi rise to power to relieve the Führer in matters concerning the leadership of the Party.[25] The choice fell upon the head of the Politische Zentralkommission (Central Political Committee) of the Party. His first task was "to reorient the Party and to mobilize new forces," primarily in order to replenish the ranks of the Party, which were thinned out through the absorption of leading Party men by the government machinery. In addition, the "formation and affiliated association of the Party needed a unified political command."[26]

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24 Nationalsozialistisches Jahrbuch, 1944, p. 181.
25 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1939, p. 152.
26 Op. cit.

The function of reorientation devolved upon the Chief of Staff of the Stellvertreter, Martin Bormann. The Chief of Staff was empowered, upon order of the Stellvertreter, to issue political directives (Richtlinien) for formations and affiliated associations. Apart from these internal Party assignments it was declared to be the task of the staff to participate "decisively" in the legislative work as well as in the personnel matters of Federal agencies.

The legislative function was anchored in the "Law to Ensure the Unity of Party and State" (Gesetz zur Sicherung der Einheit von Partei und Staat) of 1 December 1933.[27] Article 2 made the Stellvertreter des Führers a member of the Reich Cabinet, then the foremost legislative body. This step was interpreted and expanded in a decree of the Führer of 27 July 1934 in the following manner:

> "To further the unity of Party and State, the Führer in his capacity as Chancellor of the Reich has decreed that the Party, more than before, be drafted for legislative work, that the Stellvertreter des Führers, Reich Minister Rudolf Hess, or delegates appointed by him, are given the right to participate in the drafting of bills prepared by each

27 RGBl. part I, p. 1016.

ministry."[28]

Laws signed by the Stellvertreter included the Law Against Insidious Attacks Upon Party and State (Gesetz gegen heimtückische Angriffe auf Partei und Staat) of 20 December 1934, one of the severest measures to suppress political opposition; the first decree in execution of the Reich Citizenship Law (Reichsbürgergesetz) of 14 November 1935;[29] the Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honor (Gesetz zum Schutze des deutschen Blutes und der deutschen Ehre) of September 1935 and the executive decree thereto,[30] which codified the defamation of Jews and established their exclusion from German citizenship.

Influence in the selection of government personnel was guaranteed by the German Civil Service Law (Deutsches Beamtengesetz) of 26 January 1937.[30a] Article 31 in conjunction with the decree of 10 July 1937[30b] demanded that the Stellvertreter be heard prior to appointments of candidates to the civil service.

Following the departure of Rudolf Hess, the title of the office of the "Stellvertreter des Führers" was changed by decree of the Führer to that of Partei-Kanzlei (Party Chancellery).[30c]

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28 Bulletin of the Reichsprossestelle (Reich Press Bureau) of the Party, published in Das Dritte Reich, 1934, Berlin, 1935, p. 295.
29 RGBl. part I, p. 1333.
30 RGBl. part I, p. 1333, 1146.
30a RGBl. part I, p. 39, 186.
30b RGBl. part I, p. 769
30c Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 151.

The decree further stated that the Partei-Kanzlei should be directly subordinate to the Führer in person. Martin Bormann, Chief of Staff, was reaffirmed in his previous functions and made Chief (Leiter) of the Partei-Kanzlei. By subsequent decree the Leiter der Partei-Kanzlei, Reichsleiter Martin Bormann, received the powers of a Reich Minister and was made a member of the Reich Government and of the Ministerial Council for the Defense of the Reich. All functions bestowed by statute, decree, edict, or circular upon the Stellvertreter des Führers were transferred to the Leiter der Partei-Kanzlei.[31]

A decree of 16 January 1942,[32] issued on the basis of the decree of 29 May 1941, confirmed the monopoly of the Partei-Kanzlei as the only Party office with authority to participate in matters of legislation and of personnel administration within the Government. All contact between, on the one hand, the Supreme Reich authorities and the supreme authorities of the States which comprised several Gaus, and, on the other, the offices of the Party, Party formations, and affiliated associations of the Party had to be channeled exclusively through the office of the Leiter der Partei-Kanzlei. This rule applied not only to the actual issuance of major Reich laws, but meant also the inclusion of the Leiter der Partei-Kanzlei in all preparatory work preliminary to the passing of Reich laws, decrees

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31 Decree of the Führer of 29 May 1941, cited in Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 151.
32 RGBl. part I, p. 35.

and edicts of the Führer, decrees of the Ministerial Council for the Defense of the Reich, decrees of the supreme Reich authorities, including executive orders and decrees, laws and decrees of the States, and decrees of the Reich Governors. In addition, participation in the discussion of all fundamental and political problems, especially of those essential to the preparation, modification, and enforcement of laws, decrees, and edicts, was the prerogative of the Leiter der Partei-Kanzlei.

The monopolistic position of the Partei-Kanzlei was strengthened further when, in the spring of 1943, the Leiter der Partei-Kanzlei was appointed Sekretär des Führers (Secretary to the Führer). This promotion made Martin Bormann the most powerful functionary within the Party hierarchy. According to official definition[33] he became the central clearing authority to the Führer for all fundamental planning and recommendations originating within the ranks of the Party ("Er behandelt alle grundsätzlichen Planungen und Anregungen aus dem Bereich der Partei zentral für den Führer"). Conversely, all directives issued by the Führer for the Party or drafted upon his order were channeled through Bormann to the offices in question. In other words, all operations emanating from the Party as the political force called to lead and to direct the State were concentrated in the Partei-Kanzlei. ("Die gesamte, dem politischen Führungsauftrag der Partei und ihrem richtungweisenden Verhältnis zum Staat entspringende Arbeit ist in der Partei-Kanzlei zusammengefasst").

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33 Nationalsozialistisches Jahrbuch, 1944, p. 181.

The functions of the Partei-Kanzlei, thus, were two-fold. The Leiter der Partei-Kanzlei enforced Party authority inside and outside the movement. As the center of internal control, the Leiter der Partei-Kanzlei had the right to examine all internal plans of the Party and all vital questions of political leadership, including the fundamental proposals of the Reichsleiter, the Gauleiter, and the Leader of the affiliated associations of the Party, and to "coordinate them with the requirements of the total political situation" ("auf die gesamtpolitischen Erfordernisse abgestimmt"). This included the employment of the Party offices in the interest of total mobilization and the supervision of Party work in incorporated and occupied territories. As part of his Party-internal functions the Leiter der Partei-Kanzlei had the right to grant or to deny access to the Führer to all.[34] As part of his rights to represent the Party externally he dealt with all questions of common interest to the Party and the Armed Forces, with all problems concerning the enforcement of unity of Party and State, and, above all, he participated in matters of legislation and in such matters of personnel administration as fell within the field of civil service (see above), insofar as they did not come under the jurisdiction

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34 Cf. Interrogation of Lammers, Chief of Reich Chancellery, Ref. No. SAIC/32, on file with the War Crimes Office.

of the Gauleiters.

The complex nature of the responsibilities carried by the Partei-Kanzlei is evident from the number and type of offices under its jurisdiction. They are the:

Geschäftsführung (Executive Office)

Sachbearbeiter für innere Parteiangelegenheiten
(Internal Party Affairs) Helmut Friedrichs

Sachbearbeiter für staatsrechtliche Fragen
(Constitutional Questions) Gerhard Klopfer

Sonderbeauftragter bei der Partei-Kanzlei
(Special Delegate at the Party Chancellery)
Gustav Oexle

Hauptarchiv der NSDAP
(Party Archives) Arnold Brügmann

Leiter der Auslandsorganisation
(Leader of the Foreign Organization)
Ernst Wilhelm Bohle

Beauftragte der NSDAP für alle Volkstumsfragen
(Delegate of the Party for all Questions of "Folkdom") Heinrich Himmler

Beauftragte für den Neubau des Reiches
(Delegate for the Reorganization of the Reich)
Adolf Wagner (dead)

Beauftragte für alle Fragen der Technik und ihre Organisation (Delegate for Technological Affairs) Albert Speer

Sachbearbeiter für alle Fragen der Volksgesundheit
(Delegate for all questions of Public Health)
Leonardo Conti

Leiter des Rassenpolitischen Amtes der NSDAP
(Chief of the Office for Racial Policy)
Walter Gross

Leiter des Amtes für Sippenforschung
(Chief of Office for Genealogical Research)
Kurt Mayer

Beauftragte für Fragen der Finanz und Steuerpolitik
(Delegate for Questions of Finance and Tax Policy)
Fritz Reinhardt

Reichslager der NSDAP., Bad Tölz
(Reich Camp of the Party) Martin Seidel

Reichsschule der NSDAP, Feldafing
(Reich School of the Party) Julius Görlitz

More recent responsibilities added, totally or partly, to the jurisdiction of the Partei-Kanzlei included the:

Arbeitsbereiche der NSDAP
(Spheres of Operation of the Party)

Reichsluftschutzbund
(Reich Air Raid Protection League)
Friedrich Hirschauer

Volkssturm
(People's Militia)

It is obvious from the multitude and diversity of offices assembled within the Partei-Kanzlei that it was not conceived and organized as a Party Cabinet, where high Party policies were formulated in council fashion, but rather as a clearing house, where high Party functionaries were heard or directed by the Leiter der Partei-Kanzlei on matters pertaining to their particular sphere of jurisdiction.

Functionally, the office in charge of "Internal Party Affairs" under Friedrichs undoubtedly had a central position. All problems of internal Party control were presumably cleared

through this office. Directives for Reichsleiter, Gauleiter, Verbändeführer (leaders of the affiliated associations) and Leiter der Arbeitsbereiche (Leaders of the Spheres of Operation) probably originated here. The Chief of the Office, Friedrichs, was known to be Bormann's right hand man. In the last days of the war, when the Allied armies threatened to cut Germany in two, Friedrich was reported to have been entrusted with political leadership of Northern Germany.

The office for "Constitutional Questions" under Klopfer, probably represented the Party in all matters of legislation. This function, logically, would seem to have included the preparation of bills affecting the Party or the relationship of the Party to outside agencies, and, presumably, the right to examine, veto, or approve bills prepared by offices within or without the Party and movement.

The Hauptarchiv der NSDAP (Party Archives) under Brügmann collected, sifted, and edited all documents, printed material, reports, photographs, etc., which were "of interest to the historian."[35] This office comprised the following departments: (a) "Historical Archives" which contained the history of the Party, Party formations, and affiliated associations; questions concerning Jewry, Freemasonry, political

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35 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 339

Catholicism, and race "from a historical viewpoint;" (b) "Archives for Newspapers and Magazines," which contained a collection of newspapers and magazines of former political parties and of the Nazi Party; (c) "Library," which contained all National Socialist literature as well as the publications of "Marxism," trade unions, and other organizations of the Weimar Republic; (d) "Germandom Abroad," which contained a file of all events concerning Germandom and the National Socialist movement abroad; (e) "Department for History and Policy of Arts," which edited all pictorial and textual material suited for cultural programs of the Party and propaganda, and where works belonging to "Nordic-Indo-Germanic" culture were indexed; (f) "Collections," which contained pictures, documents, etc., of prominent Party members and of the dead of the movement; also historic relics of former political parties and organizations and phonographic records of prominent politicians; (g) "Photo-Laboratory and Pictorial Records," where all pictorial records were edited and filed and where Party events were pictorially recorded; (h) "Other Archives and Records," to which the archives and records of offices of the Party and Party formations which had been dissolved were being transferred for safekeeping. The Hauptarchiv, depending on need, was continued on the Gau level. The Gauarchive received the material collected in and from

the Kreise (districts) and Ortsgruppen (local groups). All offices of the Party, Party formations, and affiliated organizations were required to hand over all suitable material to the Hauptarchiv.[36] According to recent reports,[37] the majority of German archives in Berlin were destroyed upon higher orders. The Hauptarchiv der NSDAP was located in 1944 in Munich, Gabelsbergerstrasse 41. It is quite possible that these archives were also destroyed or dispersed and evacuated to other places.[38] However, an attempt should be made to locate and apprehend as many of these documents as possible. They constitute a vital body of information on the structure and activities of the Nazi system and the record of its members.

The responsibilities of the remaining offices, so far as they related to war crimes, will be described within their proper context. Their over-all function within the Partei-Kanzlei can best be summarized as that of co-signers of Party policies in all matters concerning their own jurisdiction and as auxiliary organs of Party control within and without the Party proper. Therefore, the Partei-Kanzlei, i.e., originally

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36 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, pp. 339-340.
37 OSS A-56134
38 A Soviet broadcast of 26 June 1945 indicated that part of the Archives were flown to Spain (FCC Daily, 27 June 1945

the Stellvertreter des Führers, later the Chief of the Party Chancellery and heads and staffs of the component offices, must be held responsible, within their respective areas of jurisdiction, for the formulation of over-all Party policies, for the issuance of all legislative acts, i.e., statutes, decrees, edicts, circulars of the Reich and States comprising more than one Gau, and for all appointments to the higher civil service.

Specific activities establishing, directly or indirectly, the responsibility of the Partei-Kanzlei for the commission of war crimes are the following:

1. Issuance of Circular No. 163/43 in Reichsverfügungsblatt (Official Bulletin of the Party) of 28 November 1943 endorsing order of the Chief of Prisoner of War Section within the OKW (Supreme Command of the Armed Forces) "to cause prisoners of war to apply their capacity of work to the fullest." It is apparent from the wording of the circular that this order, which undoubtedly led to the ruthless exploitation of PW's beyond the limits set in the Geneva Convention, was actually inaugurated under pressure from the Party Chancellery.

   The order stipulated expressly:

   that Russian prisoners "need not any longer regularly receive the originally careful surveillance of their health and the intermittent check-ups on weight";

   that "Leaders of Workers' Commandos and of guards must now receive unequivocal orders and be continually informed through advice and

instruction that their urgent duty lies in forcing prisoners to employ their full production capacity and in seeing to it that loafers are punished as quickly as possible by the measures approved for contractors or the punishments reserved to military authorities, and that resistant elements are recognized and weeded out....The contractors are today officials of the German people";

that "the treatment of PW's put out to work is... to have one sole consideration in mind: to bring production to the highest possible point and to take sharp measures if the PW's are negligent, lazy, or recalcitrant. PW's are not to be 'attended to' but to be treated so that the highest possible production rate may be reached, as demanded";

that "sharp measures (are to be taken) at once against unruliness or escapes on the part of PW's";

that "weaklings who are said to have remarked that in the present situation we should try to insure that we have friends among the PW's by treating them mildly, are defeatists and should be brought to trial for undermining the war potential";

that "PW's should at no time be left in doubt that they will be pitilessly shot if they take up mutiny or even passive resistance".39

2. Circular of 31 May 1944 in Reichsverfügungsblatt requesting all Party members to volunteer for honorary part-time duties in the Security Police. As part of the general terror campaign these Party members were authorized to proceed not only against defeatists and rumor-mongers, but also

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39 OSS A-55823. See also Announcement of Leiter der Partei-Kanzlei of 8 November 1944 ordering "strengthened propaganda influence" for Allied prisoners of war to increase work performance and output (SHAEF, PWD Intelligence Section-Rear, Ref. No. SR. 1752/D/15202, Document Report by PWD, 24 April 1945; OSS, CID, 130305).

against anyone suspected of a crime or transgression. Proofs and witnesses were not considered necessary. Party members and members of Party formations had therefore to be conversant with the procedure of taking particulars of identification and making temporary arrests and to be familiar with the use of weapons.[40] Possibly in line with these recommendations, local Gestapo offices handed over to Party officials the responsibility of dealing with the "anti-social behavior" of certain members of the population.[41]

3. Circular of the Party Chancellery regarding the attitude required of Party officials toward religious groups, quoted in Confidential News Service of the Gauleitung Westfalen-Süd on 2 November 1944. This circular stipulated:

that no officials may accept any office, even honorary, in any church;

that they may not participate in its activities, even unofficially;

that officials may never undertake tasks involving religious questions, except in the service of Party or State;

that officials must not identify themselves with the spirit of any religious group;

that while the aforesaid does not apply to ordinary members, their religious activities must take place out of uniform without reference to their Party membership;

that no Party member may attend religious meetings in uniform, except burials;

that Party members are allowed to be members of the Church finance committees which have been established as public offices in some districts;

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40 SHAEF, CI MONITOR, No. 7, 3 March 1945, p. 5.
41 Cf. SHAEF, CI MONITOR, No. 15, 28 April 1945.

that violations of this policy will be punished, if necessary, with dismissal from the Party.[42]

More evidence could probably be found in the Reichsverfügungsblatt, the official Bulletin.

D. The Reichsleitung (Reich Directorate)

The Reichsleitung of the Party was not a Party Cabinet. It was, rather, a common denominator for the chief executive organs of the Party (Oberste Dienststellen der NSDAP), each assisting the Führer in some of the technical functions which were the prerogative of the Party and each operating on a national plane but with subdivisions on the regional and, in most instances, also on the district and local levels. Through the Reichsleitung perfect co-ordination of Party and State machinery was guaranteed. The Party Manual puts it this way: "In the Reichsleitung the arteries of the organization of the German people and of the German State merge" ("In der Reichsleitung laufen die Fäden der Organisation des deutschen Volkes und des Staates zusammen")[43] A circular of the Reich Minister of Justice, 17 February 1934,[44] sanctioned the coordination of Party and State on the Reich level legally by establishing equal rank for Reich offices of the Party and Reich offices of the Government. Reich

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42 SHAEF, CI MONITOR, No. 5, 17 February 1945.
43 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, pp. 148-149.
44 Published in Das Dritte Reich, 1934, Berlin, 1935, p. 296.

Minister Gürtner states expressly that

> "The Supreme offices of the Party Directorate (Reichsleitung and Liaison Staff) are equal in rank ("gleichzustellen") to the Supreme Reich government authorities (Reichsbehörden)."

This state of affairs, called euphemistically "the permeation of the State apparatus with the political will of the Party"[45] ("die Durchdringung des Staatsapparates mit dem politischen Willen der Partei") was further guaranteed not only through the appointment of the Chief of the Party but also through far-reaching identity of the leadership of Party Offices with that of the corresponding Governmental Offices; for example, the Reich Propaganda Leader of the Party, Goebbels, was Minister of Propaganda, while the head of the Main Office for "Folkdom" within the Reichsleitung, Himmler, was simultaneously "Reich Commissioner for the Consolidation of Germandom" (Reichskommissar für die Festigung des deutschen Volkstums"),[46] etc.

To insure and to perpetuate the prerogative of the Party, the offices within the Reichsleitung were allotted the following specific functions: (1) to execute efficiently and quickly those tasks assigned them by the Führer or, upon his orders, by the Chief of the Party Chancellery, so that

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45 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 148-149.
46 Circular of the Führer of 12 March 1942, reprinted in Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, pp. 317, 318.

"the will of the Führer is conveyed swiftly and accurately to the lowest regions of sovereignty";[47] (2) to maintain the closest contact "with the life of the people" through the subdivisions in the Gaus, etc. All observations made in this way must be collected and evaluated by the offices of the Reichsleitung; (3) to secure the recruitment of an elite suited for leadership; and (4) to guarantee the efficiency of the Party apparatus in all its sections.[48]

All office-holders within the Reichsleitung, i.e., Reichsleiter and all other political leaders, were appointed by the Führer. Each office (Dienststelle) within its particular area of jurisdiction performed so-called "leadership functions" (Führungsaufgaben). As part of these functions, the Führer or, upon his orders, the Chief of the Party Chancellery, assigned to them specific tasks.[49] The number of offices was so calculated that all areas of "folkish" life were represented in the Reichsleitung.

The Reichsleitung of the Party consisted, essentially, of the Reichsleiter (Reich Leaders) of the Party, the Hauptämter (Main Offices), and the Ämter (Offices).

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47 Nationalsozialistisches Jahrbuch, 1944, p. 175.
48 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, pp. 148-149.
49 Nationalsozialistisches Jahrbuch, 1944, p. 175.

1. The Reichsleiter. The Reichsleiter of the Party, were, next to the Führer, the highest officeholders within the Party hierarchy. They were entrusted by the Führer with so-called "Party official" tasks.[50] Each of them had a specific title and was in charge of at least one office within the Reichsleitung. In addition, many of them carried major responsibilities as heads of Party formations, of affiliated associations of the Party, of supervised or otherwise controlled organizations of the Party, of offices on a lower (regional) level, or of governmental agencies.

The Nationalsozialistisches Jahrbuch, 1944, lists the following Reichsleiter:

Max Amann	Reichsleiter für die Presse (Reich Leader for the Press)
Martin Bormann	Leiter der Partei-Kanzlei und Sekretär des Führers (Chief of the Party Chancellery and Secretary of the Führer)
Philipp Bouhler	Chef der Kanzlei des Führers der NSDAP. Vorsitzender der Parteiamtlichen Prüfungskommission zum Schutze des NS - Schrifttums. (Chief of the Chancellery of the Führer and Chairman of the Party's Official Examining Commission for the Protection of National Socialist Literature)
Walter Buch	Leiter des Obersten Parteigerichts (Chief of the Supreme Party Court)

50 Nationalsozialistisches Jahrbuch, 1944, p. 175.

Walter Darré	On leave
Otto Dietrich	Reichpressechef der NSDAP (Reich Press Chief of the Party)
Franz von Epp	Leiter des Kolonialpolitischen Amtes (Chief of the Office for Colonial Policy)
Karl Fiehler	Leiter des Hauptamtes für Kommunalpolitik (Chief of the Main Office for Communal Policy)
Wilhelm Frick	Leiter der Nationalsozialistischen Reichstagsfraktion (Leader of the National Socialist Reichstag Delegation
Joseph Goebbels	Reichspropagandaleiter der NSDAP (Reich Propaganda Leader of the Party)
Konstantin Hierl	Reichsarbeitsführer (Reich Labor Service Leader)
Heinrich Himmler	Reichsführer SS; Beauftragter der NSDAP für alle Volkstumsfragen (Reich Führer SS; Delegate of the Führer for "Folkdom")
Robert Ley	Reichsorganisationsleiter der NSDAP; Leiter der Deutschen Arbeitsfront Reich Leader of the Party Organization and Leader of the German Labor Front
Alfred Rosenberg	Der Beauftragte des Führers für Überwachung der gesamten geistigen und weltanschaulichen Schulung und Erziehung der NSDAP (Delegate of the Führer for the Total Supervision of the Spiritual and Ideological Training and Education of the Party)

Baldur von Schirach	Reichsleiter für die Jugenderziehung der NSDAP. (Reich Leader for Youth Education in the NSDAP)
Franz Xaver Schwarz	Reichschatzmeister der NSDAP (Reich Treasurer of the Party)

Former editions of the Nationalsozialistische Jahrbuch mention, in addition, the names of Adolf Hühnlein, Chief of the National Socialist Motor Corps, Victor Lutze, Chief of Staff of the SA, and Hans Frank, Chief of the Reichsrechtsamt (Reich Legal Office) of the Party. Frank became Governor of Poland. The Reichsrechtsamt was dissolved. In consequence, it appears, Frank lost the title of Reichsleiter. The title of Reichsleiter, obviously, was contingent on incumbency of a Reich office within the Party hierarchy, but all holders of such offices were not, of necessity, Reichsleiter. Baldur von Schirach, for instance, ceded his office of Reichsjugendführer (Reich Youth Leader) to Artur Axmann. Artur Axmann, however, did not become a Reichsleiter. Baldur von Schirach, on the other hand, was put in charge of Youth Education of the Party and thus was able to retain his title of Reichsleiter.

It should be noted that neither Göring nor Ribbentrop were Reichsleiter nor holders of offices within the Reichsleitung of the Party. Göring's only position within the Party hierarchy was a prospective one: that of Successor-

Designate of the Führer.

a. The Reichsorganisationsleiter der NSDAP (The Reich Leader for Party Organization). (Former address: Munich 33, Barerstrasse 15). Reichsorganisationsleiter of the Party was Robert Ley. His original title, changed through decree of the Stellvertreter des Führers of 10 November 1934, was Stabsleiter der Parteiorganisation (Chief of Staff of Party Organization); that of his office was Oberste Leitung der Parteiorganisation (Supreme Directorate of Party Organization). He was appointed by the Führer to take charge of all matters concerning the organization of the Party, Party formations, and affiliated associations.[51] By virtue of this assignment, the Reichsorganisationsleiter became one of those chief control organs of the Party in which the principle of "subordination and coordination" was substantially anchored. This function, allotted only to a few offices within the Reichsleitung, was defined in a circular of 12 May 1934. It stipulated that all ordinances and measures of the Reichsleiter and offices (Dienststellen) of the Reichsleitung which concerned the organization of the Party, or which carried implications of an organizational nature, were to be discussed with the Reichsorganisationsleiter before publication or execution and must be approved by him. In addition, each plan and each

51 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 153.

ordinance of this type was to be co-signed by the Reichsorganisationsleiter, with the implication that any ordinance of Party offices not based on such consent remained invalid. In such an event, the Reichsorganisationsleiter was empowered to overrule offices of the Party, of Party formations, and of affiliated associations and to countermand orders issued by them which conflicted with the position taken by him.[52]

The strategic purpose of the office of the Reichsorganisationsleiter within the total structure of the Party hierarchy has been defined[53] as that of creating the permanently alerted (schlagfertig) and disciplined apparatus required for the task of leading the German people. According to Nazi principles, this aim could not be achieved by technical organization alone. For

> "the strength of a political party lies by no means in a mentality, as great and as independent as possible, of the individual members but rather in the disciplined obedience with which its members follow their intellectual leadership."[54]

Consequently, purely technical organization was to be supplemented by proper training and careful selection of personnel. The Party Manual stipulated that[55]

> "The areas of personnel policy, training, and organization form an entity.

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52 Ibid.
53 Nationalsozialistisches Jahrbuch, 1944, p. 183.
54 Mein Kampf, p. 679.
55 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 154.

> "The recruitment and the enrollment of Party members in a well-organized system of training is a prerequisite for good personnel policies. Only if training is adequate can the bearers of sovereignty and, upon their order, the personnel offices pursue a successful personnel policy. The latter, in turn, is the prerequisite for the creation of a highly dynamic organization."

In keeping with these principles the Reichsorganisationsleiter, in this very capacity, was simultaneously Reichsschulungsleiter (Reich Training Leader) and Reichspersonalleiter (Reich Leader for Personnel).[56] The concentration of authority on the top level in the same person was intended to guarantee uniformity of principles and procedures on all levels of operation.

Special functions of the Reichsorganisationsleiter in his triple capacity were: (1) the organization of the Party Congress (prior to 1939); (2) the organization of meetings of the bearers of sovereignty (Hoheitsträger) at the so-called "Ordensburgen" (literally "Castles of the Order," actually, training schools for Nazi leaders) in order "to achieve the solidarity of the leader corps of the Party";[57] (3) the issuance of ordinances on the training of political leaders; (4) the supervision of leadership training; and (5) the leadership of the German Labor Front.

To execute the various functions assigned to him, the

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56 Ibid., p. 153.
57 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, pp. 154-155.

Reichsorganisationsleiter relied on the following chief assistants:

the Stabsleiter (Chief of Staff)
Heinrich Simon

the Hauptreferenten (Chief Assistants)

in charge of

the Hauptorganisationsamt
(Main Office for Organization)
Hartmut Stegemann

the Hauptpersonalamt
(Main Office for Personnel)
Fritz Karrenbach

the Hauptschulungsamt
(Main Office for Training)
Heinrich Bruhn

the Adjutantur
(Office of the Adjutants)
Unknown

the Organisationsleitung der Reichsparteitage
(Management of the Reich Party Congresses) Werner Kropp

Only the first-mentioned main offices, for organization, personnel, and training, were of prime importance. Each of them was continued on the regional (Gau), district (Kreis), and local (Ortsgruppe) levels. Through them, the Reichsorganisationsleiter effected the subordination and coordination of offices and organizations within the Nazi movement.

The following offices and organizations were subordinate

to the Reichsorganisationsleiter as regards management, organization, personnel, and discipline:

the NS - Frauenschaft
(NS Women's League) Gertrud Scholtz-Klink

the Hauptamt für Volkswohlfahrt
(Main Office for Public Welfare)
Erich Hilgenfeldt

the Hauptamt für Volksgesundheit
(Main Office for Public Health
Leonardo Conti

the NSD - Studentenbund
(NS German Students' League)
Gustav-Adolf Scheel

the NSD - Dozentenbund
(NS German University Teachers' League)
Gustav-Adolf Scheel

the Hauptamt für Kriegsopfer
(Main Office for War Victims)
Hanns Oberlindober

the Hauptamt für Beamte
(Main Office for Civil Servants)
Hermann Neef

the Hauptamt für Erzieher
(Main Office for Educators)
Fritz Wächtler

the Hauptamt für Kommunalpolitik
(Main Office for Communal Policy)
Karl Fiehler

the Hauptamt für Technik
(Main Office for Technology)
Albert Speer

1. The Hauptorganisationsamt (Main Office for Organization). (Former address: Munich 33, Barerstrasse 15). The Hauptorganisationsamt was headed by Dienstleiter Hartmut Stegemann. According to official definition, "The Hauptorganisationsamt creates the prerequisites for a constantly alerted (schlagfertig) organizational apparatus."[58] Specifically, it established the foundations of the regional organization, supervised the formulation of programs by individual Party offices, saw to it that the offices confined themselves to the areas of jurisdiction assigned to them, and edited the organizational literature.[59] In addition, the Hauptorganisationsamt supervised all Organisationsleiter on the regional, district, and local levels. The Organisationsleiter (Leader for Organization), on each level, was one of the closest collaborators and advisers of the Hoheitsträger (bearer of sovereignty) on the respective level, e.g., of the Gauleiter, Kreisleiter, etc. It was his job to place at the disposal of the Hoheitsträger an apparatus adequate to execute Party policies determined by the Hoheitsträger or higher Party offices. For the same purpose the Organisationsleiter was in intimate contact with the Personalamtsleiter (Leader of Personnel Office), the Schulungsleiter (Leader of Training),

58 Nationalsozialistisches Jahrbuch, 1944, p. 184.
59 Ibid.

with the leaders of the Party formations, affiliated associations and supervised organizations, with the Organisationsleiter superior or subordinate to him, and with the leader of offices on the staff of the Hoheitsträger. The functions of the Hauptorganisationsamt are in general evident from the titles of its component offices. They were:

I. Hauptstelle: Geschäftsführung
(Main Bureau: Executive Office)

II Hauptstelle: Tagungen der NSDAP
Sonderaufgaben - Organisationsausstellungen
(Main Bureau II: Meetings of the Party - Special Assignments - Exhibits)

III. Amt Vertikale Organisation
(Office for Vertical Organization)

IV. Amt Gebietliche Organisation
(Office for Regional Organization)

V. Amt Organizationsausrichtung
(Office for Organizational Orientation)

VI. Amt Organisationsschrifttum
(Office for Organizational Literature)

VII. Amt Statistik
(Office for Statistics)

VIII. Hauptstelle Graphik
(Main Bureau for Graphic Presentation)

IX. Amt Ausbildung
(Office for Training)

X. Amt Uniform und Ausrüstung
(Office for Uniforms and Equipment)

The Gauorganisationsamt (Gau Office for Organization), the Kreisorganisationsamt (District Office for Organization), and the Ortsgruppenorganisationsamt (Local Office for Organization) contained similar "Planstellen" (i.e., planning offices), except for the fact that they were fewer in number and that their functional breakdown was less detailed.

The nature of the tasks assigned to the Organisationsleiter demanded a high degree of flexibility and adaptibility, depending on the conditions prevailing in any given locality. Consequently, the scope and type of functions performed by him varied in details. Nevertheless, there were certain recurrent responsibilities of primary importance.

Foremost among them were those handled by the Amt Ausbildung (Office for Training). According to the Party Manual,[60] the Reichsorganisationsleiter was simultaneously Reichsausbildungsleiter (Reich Drill Leader). The Amt Ausbildung within the Reichsleitung supervised "functionally" the Gauausbildungsleiter. (The Party Manual expresses it in this way: "Die disziplinär den Gauorganisationsleitern unterstehenden Gauausbildungsleiter erhalten ihre fachliche Ausbildung vom Amt Ausbildung").[61] The Gauausbildungsleiter,

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60 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 162.
61 Ibid.

in turn, supervised, functionally, the Kreisausbildungsleiter (District Drill Leaders). The Kreisausbildungsleiter supervised, functionally, the so-called "Hundertschaftsleiter" (Leaders of a Hundred Men), who, in turn, had under their command 100-150 political leaders, members of several local groups. It should be noted, however, that the jurisdiction of the Ausbildungsleiter was restricted to the specific area of responsibility assigned them, namely, drill. As regards organizational discipline, Ausbildungsleiter were subordinate to the Organisationsleiter on their respective levels, i.e., the Gauausbildungsleiter to the Gauorganisationsleiter, and so forth. The term "Ausbildung", literally "training", is misleading. It implies actual physical training and military drill including training in the use of weapons, such as pistols. The Party Manual stipulated:

> "The Political Leader (Politische Leiter) must distinguish himself through soldierly bearing and discipline, irrespective of whether he is in Party uniform or civilian clothes. His appearance and conduct, as an individual or in closed formations, in parades and meetings of the Party, as well as the handling of the weapon of honor, the pistol, require adequate training and orientation.
>
> "Training is obligatory."

Details of the training are described in the "Ausbildungsvorschrift für die Politischen Leiter der NSDAP. -AVM" (Training Regulations for the Political Leaders of the Party)

and in the "Ausbildungsvorschrift für die Politischen Leiter der NSDAP., Ausbildung mit der Pistole - AVP." (Training Regulation for the Political Leaders of the Party, Training in the Use of the Pistol), as well as in the executive orders for the annual shooting contest of the Political Leaders in Nuremberg.[62]

The Amt Statistik (Office for Statistics) was the central clearing bureau for all statistics made by and about the Party, Party formations, and affiliated associations. In addition, it prepared statistical studies on the organization, membership, and leadership of the whole Party apparatus for the purpose of remedying any weaknesses in the organization. The files of this office, if obtainable, would be of considerable assistance in establishing functions and activities of Party offices and their incumbents.

The Hauptstelle Graphik (Main Bureau for Graphic Presentation) contained files of similar interest. This bureau was responsible for the coordination and direction (Ausrichtung) of all graphic and artistic works which were executed upon the initiation of the Reich Delegate for Artistic Form. It shared, with the Party and Government propaganda agencies, the responsibility for all such pictorial documents, which were

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62 All quoted Ibid., p. 162a.

in large part designed to stir up political and racial hatred.

The Amt Vertikale Organisation (Office for Vertical Organization), according to official definition,[63] was responsible for the "construction, expansion and supervision of the Party organization." This included responsibility for the erection of Party Main Offices, offices and bureaus, for the definition of their jurisdiction and for the incorporation in or exclusion from the Party of affiliated associations and supervised organizations. It was instrumental in the subordination to and coordination (Gleichschaltung) with the Party of non-Party organizations.

The Amt Gebietliche Organisation (Office for Regional Organization) was responsible for delineating and defining the jurisdiction of Hoheitsträger and other Party leaders in terms of geographical extension.

The Amt Organizationsausrichtung (Office for Organizational Orientation) was responsible for the "selection, orientation, and advancement of political leaders who are particularly suited for organizational work." To this end, the office not only procured the training material and issued directives to insure the desired attitude of the staff, but it had also the task of "checking constantly" the organizational

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63 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, pp. 167-168.

system of block, cell, and local groups as well as the status of political orientation of the respective leaders. It thus amounted, in effect, to a departmental security agency.

ii. The Hauptpersonalamt (Main Office for Personnel). (Former address, Munich 33, Barer Strasse 15). The Hauptpersonalamt was headed by Hauptdienstleiter Fritz Marrenbach. According to official definition,[64] the Hauptpersonalamt had the following functions: to advise the Hoheitsträger on the selection of political leaders; to advance Party members in accordance with their abilities and inclinations as political leaders; to recruit leaders for the formations and affiliated associations of the Party; and to prevent the offices of the Party and its formations and affiliated associations from employing persons on a full-time, part-time, or voluntary basis who in view of their character or Weltanschauung were not fitted for the job, or the removal of persons for important reasons from one office and their reinstatement in another office of the Party.

To facilitate the execution of these tasks, the personnel offices kept personnel files on all Politische Leiter (political leaders), including feminine leaders and guardians of the NS-Womens' League. To this end, the Hauptpersonalamt

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64 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 173.

maintained a so-called Zentrale Warnkartei (Central Warning File).[65] Each personnel office on the Reich, Gau, or Kreis level kept files on political leaders operating on the same level and on the two next levels subordinate to them. For instance, the Hauptpersonalamt at the Reichsorganisationsleiter maintained files on the record of Politische Leiter, Walter und Warte as well as NSF-Leiterinnen and Walterinnen of the Reichsleitung; furthermore on those of the Stellvertretende Gauleiter (Deputy Gau Leaders) Gauhauptamtsleiter, Gauamtsleiter, Gaufrauenschaftsleiterinnen, and, finally, on that of the Kreisleiter (District Leaders). It should be noted that, officially, the files of the Hauptpersonalamt did not contain any data on the Reichsleiter or Gauleiter.

On the whole, the individual functions of the Hauptpersonalamt are evident from the title of its component offices. They are:

I. Hauptstelle Geschäftsführung
(Main Bureau I: Executive Office)

II. Amt Politische Leiter
(Office for Political Leaders)

III. Amt für Nachwuchs
(Office for Recruitment and Replacement)
This office contains the Bureaus for Personnel established at various Ordensburgen and the Bureau for Selection and Enrollment at the Ordensburgen and Adolf Hitler Schulen.

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65 For details, see SHAEF, CI Monitor, #6, 24 February 1945

IV. Amt Personelle Sonderaufgaben
(Office for Special Personnel Affairs)
This office contains the Warning Files.

The Gau-Personalamt (Gau Office for Personnel) and the Kreis-Personalamt (District Office for Personnel) contained Planstellen, i.e., planning offices, modeled on the pattern of the Hauptpersonalamt, although they were fewer in number and their functional breakdown was less detailed.

iii. The Hauptschulungsamt (Main Office for Training) (Former address: Munich 33, Barer Strasse 15). The Hauptschulungsamt was headed by Dienstleiter Heinrich Bruhn (formerly by Robert Schmidt). According to official definition,[66] the Hauptschulungsamt was responsible for the ideological political orientation (weltanschaulich politische Ausrichtung) of the following persons:

> Politische Leiter of the Party, inclusive of all those delegated, for special services, to the formations, affiliated associations, and supervised organizations; and Party orators;
>
> Members of the Party, insofar as they volunteered to participate in the training program;
>
> Leiterinnen (Leaders) and Walterinnen (guardians) of the NS Women's League and of the German Women's Work;
>
> Obmänner, Walter and Warte, of the German Labor Front;

66 Nationalsozialistisches Jahrbuch, 1944, p. 185; see also Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 176.

Walter of the NS Welfare Association and the nurses;

Obmänner, and all leaders of the NS Association of War Victims;

Walter of the Reich League of Civil Servants;

Obmänner of the NS League of German Physicians;

Walter and members of the NS League of Teachers;

Leaders of the NS League of Legal Officials;

Leaders and members of the NS League of German Students;

Leaders and members of the NS League of German University Teachers;

Walter of the NS League for German Technology;

Leaders of the NS Reich League for Physical Training;

Leaders of the Office of Colonial Affairs.

The above list does not include the leaders of the SA, SS, HJ (Hitler Youth), NSKK (National Socialist Motor Corps), NSFK (National Socialist Flying Corps) and RAD (Reich Labor Service). The ideological training of the leaders of these organizations was undertaken by the offices in charge (zuständige Dienststellen) in accordance with the directives of the Delegate of the Führer for Total Supervision

of the Intellectual and Ideological Training and Education and "in mutual agreement with the Reichsorganisationsleiter, the Hauptschulungsamt and the Schulungsämter" of the Party.[67] Likewise exempt from training through the Reichsorganisationsleiter were the so-called "un-political associations," e.g., the Technical Emergency Corps, Reich Air Raid Protection League, and the Reich Veterans League. Special training plans adopted and carried through by individual offices of the Party, e.g., Propaganda Office, Office for Organization, Office for Personnel, Office for Racial Policy, etc., were restricted to the specific functions of the office and, even then, required permission by the Schulungsamt in charge.[68] Close cooperation with the Reichspropagandaleitung was assured.

Structurally, the Hauptschulungsamt was subdivided into the following offices:

I. Hauptstelle Geschäftsführung
(Main Bureau I: Executive Office)
This office included the Registrar's bureau.

II. Hauptstelle Persönlicher
(Main Bureau II: Personal Assistant)

III. Hauptstelle Bauplanung
(Main Bureau III: Building and Construction)

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67 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 181a.
68 Ibid.

IV. Amt Lehrwesen
(Office for Teaching Materials)

V. Amt Aktive Schulung
(Office for Active Training)

VI. Amt Zentrale Einberufung
(Central Office for Selection and Enrollment)

VII. Amt Redaktionelle Schulungsmittel
(Office for Editorial Training Materials)

VIII. Amt Ordensburgen
(Offices for Castles of the Order)

IX. Amt Adolf-Hitler-Schulen
(Office for Adolf Hitler Schools)

X. Amt Reichsschulungsburgen
(Office for Reich School Institutes)

The Gauschulungsamt (Gau Training Office) and the Kreisschulungsamt (District Training Office) had a structure modeled, essentially, on that of the Hauptschulungsamt, though more restricted in the number of functions and subdivisions.

Of particular significance among the various offices were the following:

Amt Lehrwesen (Office for Teaching Materials). This office procured and edited all teaching materials used by Party teachers at Party institutes. To guarantee the total coordination of school instruction with Party principles, the office likewise issued so-called Lehrstoffanweisungen (i.e., directives as how to use the teaching materials).

Amt Aktive Schulung (Office for Active Training). This office organized and supervised the training curricula and the operations at the Schulungsburgen of the Party. It recruited and supervised the teachers and speakers. It supervised the training within the affiliated associations. It was, in other words, the chief coordinator in matters of school administration.

Amt Zentrale Einberufung (Central Office for Selection and Enrollment). This office cooperated with the Hauptpersonalamt (Amt für Nachwuchs) in the selection of students. It was also in charge of the recruitment of political leaders for participation in courses arranged by Reich, Gau, and District Schools.

Amt Redaktionelle Schulungsmittel (Office for Editorial Training Materials). This office issued the "Schulungsbriefe," i.e., the periodical teaching circulars of the Party.

Amt Ordensburgen (Office for the Castles of the Order) This office, one of the most important demands of Nazi indoctrination, supervised the ideological, physical, and intellectual education at the Ordensburger of the Party. It was in charge, also, of the ideological and pedagogic training of the teaching staff and of the leaders (Stammführer).

Amt Adolf-Hitler-Schulen (Office for Adolf Hitler Schools). This office, in cooperation with the Reich Youth Leader, supervised the drafting of

curricula and the gathering of teaching materials for the Adolf Hitler Schools. It also participated in the selection of teachers and students.

In sum, the Reichsorganisationsleiter through the basic offices and offices subordinate to him must be considered as the agent chiefly responsible for the organization of the technical apparatus needed for the execution of Nazi policies. It was his chief assignment to see to it that the principle of coordination and subordination was properly enforced within the movement. To this end the appointment of officials unconditionally devoted to the Nazi cause and of tested ability to commit such criminal action as was warranted by policies or circumstances, was his work. Finally, it was his responsibility to procure a thoroughly Nazified, militant leadership through his indoctrination of German youth.

(1) The Schools of the Party. Under the Nazi system, indoctrination of youth with National Socialist ideas was made a vital ingredient of all school curricula. However, while the formal school system confined itself to the education of loyal followers, it fell upon the Party schools to create a body of Nazi leaders ready to assume whatever task within the Party hierarchy would in due time be assigned to them. The Party schools, thus, must be regarded as the instrument most vital for the perpetuation of the Nazi system,

where Nazi thought and Nazi methods were preserved in their purest form and taught in the most radical manner.

The following main types of National Socialist schools must be distinguished:

Ordensburgen
Reichsschulungsburgen
Adolf-Hitler-Schulen
Nationalpolitischen Erziehungsanstalten
Deutschen Heimschulen

Only the first three were directly under the supervision of the Party proper, although the Reich Youth Leader took an essential part in the administration and supervision of the Adolf-Hitler-Schulen. The latter two were under the control of the SS, (Office Heissmeyer), and will be discussed in the part of the report dealing with the SS.

(a) The Ordensburgen. The Ordensburgen were the "political universities," i.e., the highest educational institutions of the Nazi Party. Their purpose was to prepare young Nazis of post-college age for leading positions in the Party hierarchy. At a late stage in Nazi history, the Ordensburgen served as training centers for reliable Nazi leaders and youth slated for underground operations after defeat. Name, nomenclature, symbolism, and form of the Ordensburgen were gleaned, in part, from the history of the Teutonic Knights, whose mission these Nazi "Junkers" were called to perpetuate.

Altogether four Ordensburgen are known to have existed:

Krössinsee (Pomerania)
Vogelsang (Eifel)
Sonthofen (Allgäu)
Marienburg (East Prussia)

Enrollment of students, called "Junkers," was in the hands of a committee consisting of the Reichsorganisationsleiter, Gauleiter, Kreisleiter, the Personalamtsleiter, and the physician delegated by the Party Office for Public Health. Required qualifications for admission included proof of active service as political leader (Politischer Leiter), as leader, or simply as member of the SA, SS, NSKK, NSFK, or HJ; Aryan descent; and recommendation of the Hoheitsträger based on a report of the Personalamtleiter.

The staff consisted of the Personal der Verwaltung (administrative personnel) and the so-called Stammpersonal (nuclear personnel) comprising political leaders, unit leaders, and teachers. The Stammpersonal was recruited from the Gauamtsleiter, Kreisleiter, Kreisamtsleiter, and Ortsgruppenleiter. In addition, each Reichsleiter, Gauleiter, and Hauptamtsleiter of the Party was, ex-officio, a member of the teaching staff.

Subjects taught included racism, history, ideology (Weltanschauung), arts and culture, economics and social science, military science (Wehrwissenschaft), and applied Party politics. Particular emphasis was laid on sports and

physical culture. As part of their practical training the students performed administrative functions in Party organizations three times a year. Total time for training comprised three years, to be spent at different Ordensburgen, each of which specialized in particular subjects. Very talented students would spend an additional training period at Marienburg where they would be instructed in international politics with special emphasis on Eastern European affairs. After graduation, the best "Junkers", i.e., the so-called Stamm-Mannschaft (nuclear troops), were assembled in a camp at Chiemsee, where some would be selected for further training preparatory to a diplomatic career.

(b) The Reichsschulungsburgen. The Reichsschulungsburgen (Reich Training Castles) of the Party were organized to perfect the politico-ideological orientation of the Politische Leiter of the Party, and that of the Walter and Warte of the affiliated association ("Die Schulungsburgen der NSDAP dienen der weltanschaulich-politischen Ausrichtung der Politischen Leiter der NSDAP und der Walter und Warte der Verbände").[69]

The specific purpose of the Schulungsburgen was to gather Party officials annually for participation in courses which acquainted them with Party policies, Party administration and political methods, etc. Outstanding Party leaders

69 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 182.

were assembled at so-called Reichsschulungsburgen, others went to Gauschulungsburgen and to Kreisschulungsburgen. Some of these schools were operated in cooperation with the German Labor Front, some were run under the exclusive responsibility of the German Labor Front.

(c) The Adolf-Hitler-Schulen. The Adolf-Hitler-Schulen were created by decree of the Führer on 15 January 1937. The decree designated the schools as preparatory schools for the National Socialist Ordensburgen.[70] Approval of the Führer to organize such schools was given upon suggestion by both the Reichsorganisationsleiter and the Jugendführer des Deutschen Reiches (Reich Youth Leader). A common declaration by Reich Youth Leader von Schirach and Reichsorganisationsleiter Ley of 17 January 1937 referred to the foundation of the Adolf-Hitler-Schulen as a plan drafted cooperatively by Reichs-jugendführer and Reichsorganisationsleiter and assigned to both authorities for the purpose of execution. The same declaration stated that the Adolf-Hitler-Schulen were units of the Hitler Youth (Einheiten der Hitler-Jugend) and were under the "responsible leadership" of this organization. On the other hand, subject matter, curriculum, and teaching staff were to be selected by the two Reichsleiter cooperatively and uniformly for the whole Reich. Supervision of the schools was

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70 Das Dritte Reich, 1937, p. 117.

declared to be one of the functions peculiar to the Gauleiter in his capacity as Hoheitsträger of the Party. The right of supervision could be exercised by the Gauleiter in person or through the Gauschulungsamt.[71] Enrollment was reserved for boys twelve years old who had proved their mettle in the Deutsches Jungvolk, i.e., the younger boys' group within the Hitler Youth, upon recommendation by the Hoheitsträger in question. The declaration stipulated finally that, after graduation at eighteen, each student was entitled to a career in Party and Government.

Originally, the creation of an Adolf-Hitler-Schule was planned for each Gau. But only fourteen schools were ever put into operation. All schools were boarding schools, with the boys organized in units resembling those established within the Hitler Youth.

Selection of the students followed closely the principles stated in the declaration of 17 January 1937. Only members of the Deutsches Jungvolk, twelve years of age, in perfect state of health (no deformities), of "sound stock," and of Aryan descent were considered. A satisfactory service record in the DJ was required. Candidates were nominated by the Ortsgruppenleiter or local Hitler Youth leader, not by

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71 Ibid.

the parents, depending on availability of vacancies, which were annually allocated to each Gau. The Kreisleiter and Jungbannführer (Junior Hitler Youth Leader) would then select a number of boys among those recommended by the local leaders for "Primary Selection" in a "Primary Selection Camp." Upon recommendation by the Kreis to the Gau Personalamt, successful candidates were then sent for secondary selection to a Secondary Selection Camp. The Gauleiter, assisted by a "Final Selection Committee," chose the final candidates from those who had graduated with success. In addition, a special Delegate for Recruitment appointed by the Kreisleiter looked for suitable candidates and checked the qualifications of prospective students. According to recent information[72] the SS appears to have taken an increasing interest in the selection of candidates. Special SS and HJ boards are said to have been formed for this purpose.

The staff of the schools consisted largely of SS and HJ leaders. Only Party members with satisfactory service records and with at least two years service in schools or the government were considered.

Subjects taught included ethnology, contemporary politics, racism, natural science, languages, arts and crafts.

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72 Cf. British Report CSDIC (UK) PW Paper 81, OSS XL 8726; See also SHAEF, E.D.S. Report No. 26.

In addition, physical exercise, indoor and outdoor athletics, horseback-riding, fencing, shooting, and driving, took a predominant place in the curriculum.

Upon graduation, most students were expected to enter a public - i.e., Party or State - career or to continue their study at Ordensburgen. In the majority of cases, the graduates were a living proof of the efficiency of the Nazi school system. They emerged as staunch Nazis bent upon selecting political or military occupations.

b. The Reichsschatzmeister der NSDAP. (Reich Treasurer of the Party). (Former address: Munich 33, Verwaltungsbau der NSDAP, Arcisstrasse 10). Reichsschatzmeister der NSDAP (Reich Treasurer of the Party) was Reichsleiter Franz Xaver Schwarz. His official position was defined in the Executive Decree of 29 March 1935[73] appended to the Law to Safeguard the Unity of Party and State of 1 December 1933.[74] Article 4 stipulated that the "Reichsschatzmeister der NSDAP is the Plenipotentiary of the Führer in all fiscal affairs of the National Socialist German Workers' Party." ("Der Reichsschatzmeister der Nationalsozialistischen Deutschen Arbeiterpartei ist Generalbevollmächtigter des Führers in allen vermögensrechtlichen Angelegenheiten der Nationalsozialistischen Deutschen Arbeiterpartei"). In addition, the Reichsschatzmeister was the

73 RGBl. part I, p. 502.
74 RGBl. part I, p. 1016.

supreme administrative officer (Oberster Verwaltungsführer) of the Party as a "collective body" (Gesamtgemeinschaft).[75] In these capacities, the Reichsschatzmeister enjoyed practically unlimited powers. No business negotiation involving claims, property, or liabilities of the Party could be conducted without the participation or the approval of the Reichsschatzmeister. This included the acquisition of property, e.g., of prohibited non-Nazi organizations, and the initiation of public collections, e.g., the Winter Help by the NS Welfare Organization.

The powers of the Reichsschatzmeister were by no means confined to the Party proper. Article 4 of the Executive Decree excluded explicitly the fiscal independence of the Party formations and Article 5 that of the affiliated associations of the Party. From a fiscal point of view, the Party and Party formations were said to form an entity. Accordingly, the Reichsschatzmeister was given financial sovereignty (Finanzhoheit) over them. As to the affiliated associations of the Party, the Reichsschatzmeister exercised "financial supervision" (Finanzaufsicht) over them.[76]

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75 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 286

76 Ibid. Details on the functions of the Reichsschatzmeister are defined in the Executive Decree of 29 March 1935, RGBl. part I, p. 502; in the First and Second Executive Regulations of 29 April 1935, RGBl Part I, pp. 583, 586 respectively; in the Third Executive Regulation of 5 December 1935, part I, p. 1523; in the Fourth Executive Regulation of 31 August 1937, part I, p. 920; in the Law Against Insidious Attacks Upon Party and State and for the Protection of Party Uniforms of 20 December 1934, RGBl Part I, p. 1269, and various executive decrees issued thereto.

The technical apparatus at the disposal of the Reichsschatzmeister for the execution of his various functions consisted of the following offices:

Die Kanzlei des Reichsschatzmeisters
(The Chancellery of the Reich Treasurer)

Hauptamt I (Finanzverwaltung)
(Main Office I: Financial Administration)

Hauptamt II (Reichshaushaltsamt)
(Main Office II: Reich Budget Office)

Hauptamt III (Reichsrechnungsamt)
(Main Office III: Reich Accounting Office)

Hauptamt IV (Reichsverwaltungamt)
(Main Office IV: Reich Administration Office)

Unterstellte Ämter
(Subordinate Offices), e.g.,

Zentralpersonalamt
(Central Personnel Office)

Wirtschaftsamt
(Economic Office)

Hauptamt V (Reichtsamt des Reichsschatzmeisters)
(Main Office V: Legal Office of the Reich Treasurer)

Hauptamt VI (Reichsrevisionsamt)
(Main Office VI: Reich Auditing Office)

Hauptamt VII (Hilfskasse der NSDAP)
(Main Office VII: Relief Funds of the Party)

Hauptamt VIII (Reichszeugmeisterei)
(Main Office VIII: Reich Quartermaster)

Amt für Lotteriewesen
(Office for Lotteries)

Amtsarzt der Reichsleitung
(Official Physician of the Reich Directorate)

Sonderbeauftragte
(Special Delegates)

Ortsgruppe "Braunes Haus"

The following Beauftragte des Reichsschatzmeisters (Delegates of the Reich Treasurer) were appointed to assist him in the execution of his duties and to administer some of the major offices of his bureaucracy:[77]

in the Reichsleitung:

the Stabsleiter
(Chief of Staff)

the Leiter der Hauptämter
(Chiefs of the Main Offices)

the Sonderbeauftragte für Finanz und Verwaltungsangelegenheiten
(Special Delegates for Financial and Administrative Affairs)

the Revisoren des Reichsrevisionsamtes
(Auditors of the Reich Auditing Office)

the Reichkassenverwalter der Gleiderungen
(Reich Cashiers of the Party Formations)

in the Gauleitung:

the Gauschatzmeister und deren ständige Vertreter im Amte
(Gau Treasurers and their Permanent Deputies)

the Gaurevisoren
(Gau Auditors)

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77 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, pp. 294-295

Other delegates included:

in the Reichsleitung:

the Amtskassenverwalter (Office cashiers), with limited authority for the administration of an office of the Reichsleitung.

in the Gauleitung:

the Delegate of the Reich Treasurer in auditing matters (Auditor of the Reich Auditing Office)

in the Kreis and Ortsgruppenleitung:

the cashiers
the auxiliary cashiers

As is evident from the structure of his technical apparatus, the functions of the Reichsschatzmeister included some of a purely financial nature and others of a general administrative type. Financial functions were subdivided into those pertaining to financial economics (Finanzwirtschaft) and those pertaining to financial supervision (Finanzüberwachung). Financial economics involved the procurement of means, e.g., membership fees, special levies, collections, and lotteries; the administration of means, e.g., financing of Party offices; of Party formations; of the Gaue, Kreise, and Ortsgruppen; of special projects, e.g., buildings, Party Congresses, and large-scale meetings; of the Reich School of the Party in Feldafing, etc. Financial supervision comprised

the right to examine the budgets of the Party, Party formations, and affiliated associations (Prüfungsrecht), and the right to audit office accounts and to initiate legal and disciplinary procedures (Revisionsrecht).

The administrative duties of the Reichsschatzmeister included the following areas of jurisdiction: I. Internal Administration; II. Legal Affairs; III. Welfare and Pensions; IV. Economic Affairs; V. Equipment. "Internal Administration" comprised the issuance of general regulations for the purpose of internal administration; membership questions, e.g., admission; filing system; arbitration; conferment of the Golden Party Badge and the Blood Order; registration; personnel, e.g., appointment of Gauschatzmeister (Gau Treasurers) and Kassenleiter (Cashiers); pay lists; administration of real estate; communications and mail services; buildings; and the "Hilfszug Bayern," i.e., an auxiliary train containing field kitchens and first aid stations.

"Legal Affairs" included consultation on fundamental problems arising from the handling of fiscal affairs by Gauschatzmeister and Kassenleiter; permission to engage in litigation; insurance; lease and acquisition of real estate; taxation, etc. Welfare and Pensions included all provisions for monetary support of the victims and families of victims

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accidents suffered in the service of the Party or in immediate connection with Party work. "Economic Affairs" embraced the use of raw materials and goods by the Party, Party formations, and affiliated associations, the employment of labor and of means of transportation for purposes of the Party; similarly, the fixing and reduction of prices (Preisgestaltung und Preisvergünstigung) in the interest of the Party; price protection (Preisschutzbestimmungen), and, finally, all policies regarding the construction of buildings for the Party, Party formations, and affiliated associations. "Equipment" comprised all those functions performed by the Reichszeugmeisterei (Party Quartermaster), which was subordinated to the Reichsschatzmeister; this included the procurement of materials needed for the manufacturing of Party uniforms, badges, flags, and other equipment; the licensing for production and distribution of such items; and the protection of Party symbols, in keeping with the Law Against Insidious Attacks Upon State and Party and for the Protection of the Party Uniform of 20 December 1934,[78] the special announcement of 16 January 1935,[79] and the Third Executive Decree of 16 March 1935.[80]

The criminal responsibility of the Reichsschatzmeister

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78 RGBl. part I, p. 1249.
79 RGBl. part I, p. 70.
80 RGBl. part I, p. 387.

and of his delegates consists, to begin with, in the vital part which, by virtue of their designated function, they took in the maintenance and operation of the Party apparatus. Without their assistance neither the Party proper, nor the Party formations, nor the affiliated associations of the Party, could have carried out their program nor the special assignments allotted them by the Party leadership. Furthermore, as the property custodian of the Party, of the Party formations, and of the affiliated associations of the Party, the Reichsschatzmeister must be presumed to have taken responsibility, at least in part, for the acquisition of new property acquired through illegal expropriation, forced sales, or other criminal acts perpetrated by the Party, the SS, and other formations or affiliates of the Party.

c. The Beauftragte des Führers für die Überwachung der gesamten geistigen und weltanschaulichen Schulung und Erziehung der NSDAP (Delegate of the Führer for the Total Supervision of the Intellectual and Ideological Training and Education of the Party). (Former address: Berlin W 35, Margaretenstrasse 17).

Delegate of the Führer was Reichsleiter Alfred Rosenberg. The Office of the Delegate of the Führer, by delegation of the Führer, was placed in charge of the Party's intellectual and ideological training and education. Its declared objective was the uniform ideological orientation of the Party, Party formations, and affiliated associations. ("Ziel der Arbeit ist die einheitliche Ausrichtung der weltanschaulichen Haltung der Partei, aller Gliederungen und angeschlossenen Verbände.")[1] Its main functions, in furtherance of this objective, were the preparation of suitable training materials, the establishment of curricula, the training of qualified teaching staffs, the counseling of Party agencies, formations, and affiliates, on content and methods of indoctrination, and, specifically, the elimination of such reading and teaching materials as were deemed inappropriate from a National Socialist point of view.[2]

1. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 312.
2. Nationalsozialistiches Jahrbuch, 1944, p. 167.

To perform this multitude of individual tasks, the Delegate of the Führer operated with the help of the following sub-offices:

the Stabsleiter
(Chief of Staff)
Befehlsleiter Dr. Helmut Stellrecht

the Zentralamt
(Central Office)

the Arbeitsgebiet Lehrplanung
(Operational Area: Teaching Plans)

the Arbeitsgebiete II and III
(Operational Areas II and III for Special Assignments)

the Arbeitsgebiet Schrifttumspflege
(Operational Area: Literature)

the Arbeitsgebiet Wissenschaft
(Operational Area: Science)

the Arbeitsgebiet Vorgeschichte
(Operational Area: Pre-History)

the Arbeitsgebiet "Kunstpflege"
(Operational Area: Cultivation of Arts)

the Arbeitsgebiet Presse
(Operational Area: Press)

the Verwaltung
(Administration)

Directly subordinate to the Delegate of the Führer were also:

the Reichsarbeitsgemeinschaft für die Schulung der gesamten Bewegung (Reich Workteam for the Training of the Whole Movement) and the Gauarbeitsgemeinschaften subordinate to it.

the Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Deutsche Volkskunde
(Work Team for German Ethnology)[1]

1. For the previous and following information, cf: Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, pp. 312, 312a, 312b; FW paper 108, CSDIC (UK) on file with OSS 134627, based on testimony of FW CS/783, Dr. Richard Arnhold.

Of these offices the following were of special importance:

The Stabsleiter. He was the deputy of the Delegate of the of the Führer in matters of internal administration as well as in negotiations with other offices.

The Zentralamt. This was the executive office of the Delegate, in charge of administrative routine and personnel.

The Arbeitsgebiet Lehrplanung. This planned and issued the training directives for the whole Party, the Party formations, and affiliated associations. Its functions included the preparation and editing of all teaching curricula and teaching materials, as well as the establishment of a file containing the names of all persons engaged in the training program of the Nazi Movement. This office, unquestionably, had a major and decisive part in the work of those Party offices, agencies, organizations, formations, affiliated associations, and schools and training institutes run under their auspices, which were instrumental in the indoctrination of the German people and, specifically, of the German youth.[1]

The Arbeitsgebiet Schrifttumspflege. This was the central clearing office for Party literature. Here publications were reviewed and either recommended or banned, totally or partly,

1. Cf. description above of the Office of the Reichsorganisationsleiter and subsection thereof.

for reading or teaching purposes within the Nazi Movement. In addition, through the section "Deutsche Informationsstelle" (German Information Bureau), the office was responsible for the issuance of inflammatory literature aimed at England, and later, at the United States and Soviet Russia.

Other offices dealing with specific subjects had the task of suppressing any evidence of opposition or other thought incompatible with Nazi ideology.

The Reichsarbeitsgemeinschaft. This was the chief coordinating office for Party training and ideology. Here delegates of the Party, Party formations, and affiliated associations met to receive directives which contained the final and exclusive answer of the Delegate to specific problems which arose within the training program of the Movement.

A late development[1] within the Delegate's Office was the institution of an "Office for the Ideological Training of the Armed Forces." This office, according to an agreement concluded between Reichsleiter Rosenberg and Field Marshal Keitel, Chief of the OKW (Supreme Command of the Armed Forces), assisted the OKW in the indoctrination of the troops. For this purpose it participated in the examination of literature, published suitable pamphlets, and maintained a so-called Rednerdienst (Speakers' Service).

1. For the following see Nachrichtendienst Deutscher Zeitungsverleger and DNB, both of 21 January 1944, and Deutscher Kulturdienst of 22 January, cited in FCC: Central European Analysis of the Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service, No. 56, 3 February 1944.

Even greater importance must be attributed to another office which was put in charge of so-called "Uberstaatliche" tasks, i.e., of "Spheres Beyond the Limits of the Nation." This office devoted most of its activities to campaigns against Jewry, Freemasonry, and Marxism and was supplied with materials by the so-called "Einsatzstab Rosenberg" (Special Service Squad Rosenberg). It is this organisation which was chiefly responsible for the systematic plundering of occupied territories in accordance with the Decree of the Führer of 1 March 1942.[1] This decree by Hitler conferred on Reichsleiter Rosenberg the task of carrying on a "systematic spiritual battle against...Jews, Freemasons, and those opponents of National Socialism who are affiliated with them on the basis of 'Weltanschauung.'" The project was to be undertaken in agreement with and with the active support of the Wehrmacht, individual Army Groups, the Luftwaffe, the Gestapo, and the Geheime Feldpolizei, and was endorsed by, among others, Keitel, Göring, Reinecke, and Heydrich. The staff of the Reichsleiter was authorized "to search libraries, archives, lodges, and other "Weltanschauung" and cultural establishments for relevant material, and requisition it for the "Weltanschauung" tasks of the NSDAP and for future scientific research by the higher educational institutions." The same regulations were said to apply "to cultural treasures which are the property, or in the possession, of Jews,

1. Decree and executive orders issued thereto are on SECRET file with the War Crimes Commission; also reference in Order of Reserve Gren. Regiment 239, Abt. Ic, NSFO on file with OSS 133784.

which are ownerless, or the origin of which cannot be clearly established." The necessary measures within eastern territories under German administration were to be taken by Reichsleiter Rosenberg in his capacity of Reichsminister for Occupied Eastern Territories. In the west, the head of the Office of the Reichsleiter, in his capacity as Delegate of the Führer for the Total Supervision of the Intellectual and Ideological Training and Education of the Party, was charged with the execution of the decree.

On the strength of this authority, the Delegate of the Führer, in addition to being responsible for the indoctrination of Party, Movement, and People and for such legislative and executive measures as were adopted for the purpose of indoctrination, can also be charged with the large-scale spoliation of occupied territories.

d. Reichspropagandaleiter (Reich Leader for Propaganda). Address: Berlin W8, Taubenstrasse 8-9. Reichspropagandaleiter was Josef Goebbels.

i. History and Development. The Reichspropagandaleitung-RPL (Reich Office for Propaganda) was founded in 1932, as the central propaganda control office of the Nazi Party. In 1933, when the NSDAP took over power in Germany, this office served as the basis, both in organization and in personnel, for the establishment of the Reichsministerium für Propaganda und Volksaufklarung (Reich Ministry for Propaganda and Enlightenment).[1] As the Ministry was set in motion the overt functions and importance of the Reichspropagandaleitung lost in importance, with the exception of two fields which remained the prerogative of the Party: so-called "Aktinpropaganda", i.e. mass propaganda; the radio and the organization of radio listeners, as a device to observe and report popular reaction to official programs. Nevertheless, it remained the supreme propaganda office of the Movement, and in many respects used the Ministry as a channel for the execution of the policies it conceived.

ii. Organization. The Reichspropagandaleitung (Party Propaganda Department for the Reich) comprised the following offices:

Reichspropagandaleiter (Reich Propaganda Leader) Josef Goebbels;

Stabsleiter (Chief of Staff)Eugen Hadamovsky, later Warner Naumann;

Adjutant (Aide-de-camp) Hugo Fischer.

iii. Functions. The Reichspropagandaleitung (RPL) was a functional department (Sachamt) of the Reichsleitung, (Reich Directorate) of the Party.

1. For a description of the Propaganda Ministry, see Appendix I.

Its chief functions were (1) the direction, supervision, and synchronization of propaganda within the Party proper and within the movement; (2) the imbuing of the Movement and of the people with Nazi propaganda; (3) the control of German broadcasting insofar as its organization and cultural development are concerned; (4) the verification of the effectiveness of Nazi propaganda on the population.[1]

The functions of the Reichspropagandaleitung were carried out by several administrative departments:

Subordinated directly to the Chief of Staff were:

1. The "Reichsring für Nationalsozialistische Propaganda und Volksaufklärung (Reich Ring for National Socialist Propaganda and Enlightenment) which was charged with maintaining liaison with the propaganda departments of the affiliated associations and supervised organizations. Inasmuch as the RPL was one of the Party offices which exercised functional control over various offices and organizations of Party and Movement within its special field, the Reichsring must be considered as the center of control responsible for the complete coordination and subordination of Party and Movement in the field of propaganda.

2. The Reichsautozug "Deutschland", originally intended to supply mobile canteens and ambulances for Party rallies.

3. The Hauptstelle Pressepropaganda (Main Bureau for Propaganda through the Press) which was directed by Otto Dietrich. Officially this office was charged with preparing all propaganda material issued by the Reichspropagandaleitung for dissemination to newspapers.

1. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, pp. 295-6.

4. Hauptstelle Ausstellungs und Messewesen (Main Bureau for Exhibits and Fairs). Its functions included the supervision of the propaganda aspects of all exhibits and fairs in which the Party participated.

5. The Geschäftsstelle der RPL (Business Office) which was in charge of internal administration.

In addition to these administrative departments which were subordinated to the Chief of Staff and dealt largely with public relations matters, the Reichspropagandaleitung had six functional offices:

1. Amtsleitung Aktive Propaganda (Section for Mass Propaganda) which was headed by Oberbefehlsleiter Ingemar Berndt. It was mainly concerned with the organization of propaganda campaigns within the Movement. It operated through two subordinate offices:

a. Hauptstelle Rednerwesen (Main Bureau for Party Speakers), which was in charge of training and supplying Party speakers with propaganda material.

b. Rednervermittlung (Speakers' Center) was a pool of Party speakers and was in charge of the speakers' programs and itineraries.

2. Amtsleitung Film (Office for Films) was charged with popularizing Nazi-inspired films. It maintained a number of mobile units which staged motion picture performances in towns and villages without permanent movie houses. In addition, this office was responsible for photographing official rallies, and other Party events.

3. Amtsleitung Rundfunk (Main Office for Radio). This office was headed by Oberbefehlsleiter Eugen Hadamovsky. It operated through three subsections:

a. Hauptstelle Kulturpolitische Rundfunkarbeit und Rundfunkorganisation (Main Bureau for Cultural Political Work and the Organization of Broadcasting)

b. Hauptstelle Rundfunktechnik (Main Bureau for Radio Technology)

c. Hauptstelle Rundfunkpropaganda (Main Bureau for Radio Propaganda).

Through these offices the Amtsleitung Rundfunk performed its assigned tasks which included the supervision of the content of broadcasting as well as the popularizing of radio as a means of propaganda.

4. Amtsleitung Kultur (Main Office for Culture). This office was headed by Karl Cerff. Its main function was to make all forms of art conform to the standards of Nazi ideology. The office had four subdivisions:

Hauptstelle Architektur (Main Bureau for Architecture)

Hauptstelle für Künstlerische Formgebung (Main Bureau for Style and Design)

Hauptstelle Auswahl (Main Bureau for Selection of Works of Art)

Hauptstelle Programmgestaltung (Main Bureau for Formulation of Programs)

5. Amtsleitung Rednerausbildung (Office for the Training of Speakers). This office was charged with the training of Party speakers.

6. Verbindungsleiter (Chief of Liaison). This office was in charge of liaison with all outside agents and agencies, e.g. the Reich Ministries, the Armed Forces, etc.

Regionally the Reichspropagandaleitung was organized in Gau, -Kreis, - and Ortsgruppenpropagandaämter (Gau, district and local propaganda offices). The Gaupropagandaleiter (Leader of the Gau propaganda office) was at the same time the Gau representative of the Chamber of Culture (Landeskulturwalter) and in most cases also represented the regional office of the Propaganda

Ministry, so that on the lower levels, Party and State propaganda were completely unified. The top personnel of the Gau and Kreis propaganda offices consisted of five section heads, in charge of active propaganda, film, radio, culture, and liaison respectively. The Ortsgruppenpropagandaleiter himself was in charge of all propaganda matters within his sphere of operation.

Of the functional offices of the RPL, the Amtsleitung Aktive Propaganda was the most important. Its functions were extended to cover a variety of tasks. Thus for example one of its chief aims was, reportedly, cooperation in the absorption into the party of all Reichsdeutsche living abroad by means of propaganda.[1] Likewise, its representatives were detailed, at least during the last phases of the war, to apply their propaganda techniques to prisoners of war.[2]

c. The Reichspressechef (Reich Press Chief) Reichspressechef was Otto Dietrich. (Address: München 37, Karlstrasse 18, Berlin W8, Wilhelmstrasse 63.

1. Functions. The post of Reich Press Chief (RPC) was created by the Führer in order to establish a central political organ for the control of the entire press of the Party and the Movement.[3] The functions of the RPC included the supervision of the editorial policy of the press of the Party and of the affiliated associations. He exercised control over all press offices, including the chief editors of the National Socialist newspapers, as well as the Gau press wardens of the Party. He also served as liaison officer between the Party press and the "independent" press, and

1. Interrogation of Grenadier Richard Arnhold, former member of the Reich Ministry for Propaganda. (SCDIC-UK-PW paper 80).
2. Captured document. SHAEF Psychological Warfare Division, REF. No. SR. 1752/D/IS202, 24 April 1945.
3. Decree of the Führer, 28 February 1934, Nationalsozialistischer Jahrbuch, 1943, p. 300.

between Party and Government. This office supervised the Party's only official news service, The Nationalsozialistische Parteikorrespondenz, and issued the Verordnungsblatt der Reichsleitung (official gazette of the Reich Directorate).

Organization of the Office

Chief: Otto Dietrich

Chief of Staff: Helmut Sündermann

The executive functions of the Reich Press Chief were carried out by two offices:

1. The Pressepolitisches Amt (Press Political Office). This office was located in Bodin. It was headed by Helmut Sündermann. This office was directly responsible for publishing the Party's regular and special news bulletins. Its main functions, however, were the issuance of political directives to the Party press and the supervising of the Gau press offices.

2. The Pressepersonalamt (Press Personnel Office). This office was located in Munich. It had three subdivisions. The first (Presschulung) was in charge of training journalists; the second (Personalkartei) kept files on German and foreign journalists, and the third issued the Verordnungsblatt der Reichsleitung (The Official Gazette of the Reich Directorate).

The vertical organization of press controls included Gau-, Kreis-, and Ortsgruppen-Presseämter. Each was headed by an Amtsleiter (otherwise a press warden). The press wardens of the Gau and Kreis were responsible

for the entire Party press within their respective spheres of jurisdiction. They supervised the editorial policy of the Party press, issued information bulletins (Gaudienst or Kreisdienst) which informed the Party and non-party press about the activities of the Movement; they also served as liaison officers between the Party and non-party press. Furthermore, they transmitted local information to headquarters for distribution, and also made recommendations on the appointments of local party editors. The Gau- and Kreis-press wardens, at the same time, served as regional and local representatives of the Home Press Division of the Propaganda Ministry and of the Reich Press Chamber, thereby insuring complete coordination between Government and Party press activities on the regional and local levels. The Pressebeauftragte der Ortsgruppe (Local Press Wardens), finally, were essentially concerned with the publicity for the Party papers.

Since the Reichspressechef had political control over the Party press, he was in position to coordinate the policies of all Party newspapers, virtually to gag them, and use the huge press apparatus which was at the Party's disposal as an integrated whole for political campaigns.

f. The Reichsleiter für die Presse (Reich Press Leader) RLP was Max Amann. (Address: Munchen 22, Thierschstrasse 11; Berlin, Charlottenburg 2, Steinplatz 2).

The Reich Press Leader was charged with supervising all matters concerning the publishing business. He was not only empowered to control all publishing houses of the Party, but was assigned the task of bringing the entire German press into line with National Socialist ideology. To this

end he was given wide and specific powers.

His sphere of jurisdiction included specifically:[1]

1. The administration, publishing, and financing of the Party press;
2. The establishment of new papers by Party members or affiliated associations;
3. The incorporation of newspapers into the Party press combine;
4. The appointment of publishers and of their deputies;
5. The termination or alteration of contracts with newspapers;
6. The appointment of Commissars to supervise publishing houses.

The Reich Leader of the Press, like the Reich Press Chief operated through two offices:

1. The Verwaltungsamt des Reichsleiters für die Presse (The Administrative Office of the Reich Press Leader) which controlled the administration and finance of the National Socialist publishing houses in the Gau.
2. The Zentralverlag, the central publishing house and holding company of the entire Party publishing machine and all its official organs. These included:
   Der Völkische Beobachter, Der Angriff, Illustrierter Beobachter, Der SA Mann, Das Schwarze Korps, NS Funk, Funk und Bewegung, Funktechnischer Vorwarts, Der Arbeitsmann, Die HJ, Die Bewegung, Die Brennessel, NS Monatshefte, Die NS Gemeinde, Der Schulungsbrief, Unser Wille und Weg, Aufklärungs-

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1. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 305.

und Rednerinformationsmaterial, Reichsplanung, Deutsche Presse, Verordnungsblatt der Reichsleitung der NSDAP, Der Parteirichter, Mitteilungsblatt der Kommission für Wirtschaftspolitik, Das Parteiarchiv, Der SA Führer.

The position of the Reich Leader of the Press was of the utmost importance. By controlling the Party publishing machine he shared, with the Reich Press Chief, in its political control. Moreover, the Reich Press Leader's sphere of control extended beyond the Movement to the entire German press. For instance, he occupied the position of President of the Reich Press Chamber. He also delegated personal representatives who supervised, or served as liaison officers in, the following organizations:

Reichsverband der Deutschen Zeitungsverleger

(German Newspaper Publishers)

Reichsverband Deutscher Zeitschriftenverleger

(German Periodical Publishers)

Fachverband der Deutschen Rundfunk-Presse

(German Radio Press)

Fachgruppe der Studenten Zeitschriften

(Association of Student Journals)

Fachgruppe Jugendpresse (Juvenile press)

Fachschaft der katholisch-kirchlichen Presse

(Catholic Church Press)

Reichsverband der Evangelischen Kirche

(Evangelical Church press)

Reichsverband der Deutschen Korrespondenz und Nachrichtenbureaus

(German correspondents and news bureaus)

Verband deutscher Zeitungs-und-Zeitschriften-Grossisten (Newspaper and periodical wholesalers)

Reichsverband für den werbenden Zeitschriftenhandel (Newspaper advertising agencies)

Reichsfachschaft des Deutschen Zeitungs-und Zeitschriftenseinzelhandels (Newspaper and periodical retailers)

Reichsverband deutscher Bahnhofsbuchhändler (Railway station booksellers)

Reichsverband der Deutschen Lesezirkelbesitzer (Reading circles)

Reichsverband der Deutschen Presse (German Journalists)

Reichsverband der Deutschen Pressestenographen (Press Stenographers)

Fachschaft der Verlagsangestellten (Printing press employees)

Deutscher Buchhandel (Booksellers)

Werberat der Deutschen Wirtschaft (Advertisers)

The Reichsleiter für die Presse doubling in his capacity as president of the Reich Press Chamber exercised the economic controls over the entire German press. He made use of his position to expand the Party publishing machine at the expense of non-party newspapers. As President of the Reich Press Chamber, he was authorized to issue directives with the force of law (See below in the Chamber of Culture). In April 1935 he issued three regulations prohibiting the ownership of newspapers by corporations of any kind, except the NSDAP or such groups as he personally approved.[1]

1. Anordung zur Wahrung der Unabhängigkeit des Zeitungsverlagswesens, 24 April 1935; Völkischer Beobachter, 25 April 1935. Anordnung zur Beseitigung der Skandalpresse, 24 April 1935; Völkischer Beobachter, 25 April 1935. Anordnung über Schliessung von Zeitungsverlagen zwecks Beseitigung ungesunder Wettbewerbsverhältnisse, 24 April 1935; Völkischer Beobachter, 25 April 1935.

These regulations provided the legal basis for the pressure which the Party brought to bear on such publishing firms as Hugenberg, Ulstein, and others, in order to force them to sell out at a nominal price. In this manner, the Party publishing machine grew to absorb nearly the whole independent press, and became one of the most lucrative business enterprises of the Party.[1]

g. The Reichsamt für das Landvolk (Reich Office for the Rural Population). The formulation and execution of agricultural policies for Germany was the responsibility of three agencies: the Ministry for Food and Agriculture (Ministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft);[2] the Reich Food Estate (Reichsnährstand); and the Reich Office for the Rural Population (Reichsamt für das Landvolk). How these three agencies were also involved in the vast plans for exploitation of the agricultural resources of Europe and for the enslavement of the conquered population is best revealed in a speech delivered in 1940 by Walter Darre, head of the above-mentioned agencies until 1942.[3] After discussing the plans for conquest by "a nation predestined to rule the world," Darre presented the following description of a program for mass enslavement of the conquered peoples:

> "It will be our duty to organize economically the territorial gains which gradually will be included in the German area. We will introduce in our new "living space" completely new methods. All soil and industrial property of inhabitants of non-Germanic origin will be confiscated without exception and distributed primarily among the worthy members of the Party and

1. See Civil Affairs Handbook: Germany, Section 12: Communications and Control of Public Opinion; also interview with Max Amann, SAIC/24, 26 May 1945.
2. For a description of the Ministry, see Appendix II.
3. Speech of Walter Darre, former Minister of Food and Agriculture, cited in Life, 9 December 1940; source undisclosed.

soldiers who were accorded honors for bravery in this war. Thus, a new aristocracy of German masters (Herrenvolk) will be created. This aristocracy will have slaves assigned to it, these slaves to be their property and to consist of landless, non-German nationals. Please do not interpret the word "slaves" as a parable or as a rhetorical term; we actually have in mind a modern form of medieval slavery which we must and will introduce because we urgently need it in order to fulfill our great tasks. These slaves will by no means be denied the blessings of illiteracy; higher education will, in the future, be reserved only for the German population of Europe. We have selected this form of slavery for several reasons. The most important reason is that we are abolishing the gold standard and replacing it by work. This work must be done as cheaply as possible in order that our economic conquest may spread extensively and rapidly."

In implementing this plan and in carrying out its immediate aims insofar as Germany was concerned, the Reichsamt für das Landvolk was the Party agency directly responsible for the following functions in agriculture:[1]

1. Supervision of the rural population;

2. Cooperation with the furtherance of the work of the Reich Food Estate and of the state in the regulation of farm land, labor, and food production;

3. Planning of measures to facilitate the growth and development of National Socialism among the rural population;

4. Indoctrination, including schooling, of the younger rural generation in the principales of National Socialism;

5. Control of the rural press (for example, the Nationalsozialistische Landpost).

After 1942, the Reich Office for the Rural Population, became responsible for the execution of Party directives among the farm population. It was organized as an integral part of the regional hierarchy of the Party on the Reich, regional, district, and local levels. Gauämter (Gau Offices) Kreisämter (District Offices) and Ortsgruppenämter (Local Offices) for the Rural Population were attached to the offices of the Gau, District, and local Party Leaders.

1. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 313.

The Reich Office for the Rural Population and each of its regional divisions also exercised supervision over the Reich Food Estate and its regional offices. For example, supervision on the Reich level was exercised by the Reichsamtsleiter Herbert Backe, who simultaneously was head of the Food Estate under the title of Reich Peasant Leader. A similar connection existed on the lower levels.

The exact functions of the Reichsamt für das Landvolk cannot be determined on the basis of the evidence available in this country. Therefore it must be clear that, apart from its broad responsibility for crimes committed as one of the three organizations responsible for the formulation and execution of German agricultural policy, a specific indictment of the organization can be drawn only on the basis of information derived from interviews with such former Nazi officials as Walter Darré and Herbert Backe. Darré was displaced by Backe, and it has been reported that the two were enemies. If this is the case, more reliable knowledge can probably be derived from Darre.

2. Hauptämter der NSDAP (Main Offices of the NSDAP). The following were the Hauptämter of the NSDAP. The more important ones have been treated in this report or in others dealing with War Crimes.

Hauptorganisationsamt - Main Office for Organization[1]
Dienstleiter Hartmut Stegemann - Munich 33, Barerstrasse 15

Hauptpersonalamt - Main Office for Personnel
Hauptdienstleiter Fritz Larrenbach, Munich 33, Barerstrasse 15

Hauptschulungsamt - Main Office for Training[1]
Dienstleiter Heinrich Bruhn - Munich 33, Barerstrasse 15

Hauptamt für Volksgesundheit - Main Office for Public Health[2]
Oberbefehlsleiter Dr. Leonardo Conti - Munich 33, Karlstrasse 21

Hauptamt für Volkswohlfahrt - Main Office for Public Welfare[2]
Oberbefehlsleiter Erich Hilgenfeldt - Berlin SO 35, Maybachufer 48/51

Hauptamt für Technik - Main Office for Technology
Oberbefehlsleiter Albert Speer - Munich 26, Erhardtstrasse 36

Hauptamt für Kriegsopfer - Main Office for War Victims
Hauptdienstleiter Hanns Oberlindober - Munich 33, Herzog-Wilhelm-Strasse 32

Hauptamt für Erzieher - Main Office for Educators[3]
Gauleiter Fritz Wächtler - Munich 33, Barerstrasse 15

Hauptamt für Kommunalpolitik - Main Office for Communal Policy
Reichsleiter Karl Fiehler - Munich 33, Gabelsbergerstrasse 41

Hauptamt für Beamte - Main Office for Civil Servants
Hauptdienstleiter Hermann Naef - Berlin W 35 - Graf Spee Strasse 17

Hauptamt für Volkstumsfragen - Main Office for "Folkdom"[3]
Reichsleiter und Reichsführer SS Heinrich Himmler - Munich 33, Herzog-Wilhelm-Strasse 32

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1. See R & A 3113.7, Part III, D, 1, a
2. See R & A Report 3114.7 "Health and Racial Policy"
3. See below

a. The Hauptamt für Erzieher (Main Office for Educators) (Former Address: Munich 33, Barer Strasse 15; Bayreuth, Haus der Deutschen Erziehung). Chief of the Hauptamt für Erzieher was Gauleiter Fritz Wächtler. Operations were discontinued in March 1943 in the course of the total mobilization campaign.

The Hauptamt (Main Office) and the Ämter (Offices) subordinate to it were charged with the task of representing the interests of the Party in matters of institutional education before the various public offices ("Das Hauptamt, bzw. die Ämter für Erzieher haben bei den zuständigen Behörden alle schulischen Belange der NSDAP zu vertreten").[1] To this end, the Hauptamt evaluated all candidates for recruitment, appointment, and promotion as educators, from the "politico-ideological point of view." These evaluations were made in closest cooperation with the Kreisleitungen (District Leaders) of the Party and then passed on to the governmental offices in charge. In addition, the Hauptamt examined and issued proposals for the undertaking of "National Socialist reforms." Furthermore, the Hauptamt was to advise the Stellvertreter des Führers, later the Leiter der Partei-Kanzlei, in all matters concerning formal education and educators.[2] Finally, the Hauptamt supervised ("betreut") the NS-Lehrerbund (National Socialist Teachers' League). Organizationally, this supervision was effected through the identity of office-holders in both organizations.

The Hauptamt and the Ämter für Erzieher had no special administrative apparatus of their own. They relied for the execution of the functions delegated to them on the bureaucratic structure of the NS-Lehrerbund. Thus

1. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 252.
2. Rudolf Benze, Erziehung im Grossdeutschen Reich, p. 84.

the Leiter des Hauptamtes was, at the same time, the Reichswalter (Reich Trustee) of the NS-Lehrerbund. He selected and appointed Party members to his staff, but following the appointment he sent them directly to the NS-Lehrerbund to assume charge of the functional offices there.

The Leiter des Hauptamtes, likewise, supervised the corresponding offices on the Gau level, ("Dem Hauptamt für Erzieher obliegt die fachliche Ausrichtung der Gauämter im Stab des jeweiligen Gauleiter").[1] The Leiter of the Gauamt was, simultaneously, the Gauwalter (Gau Trustee) of the NS-Lehrerbund. He selected and appointed his staff members and then delegated them to serve in the Gauwaltung of the NS-Lehrerbund. He also supervised the Kreisamt für Erzieher. The Leiter des Kreisamtes, in turn, was identical with the Kreiswalter of the NS-Lehrerbund.

The Hauptamt für Erzieher must share the responsibility for having sponsored and, through the medium of the NS-Lehrerbund, organized the Nazification of the German school system. Through pressure on provincial and local school authorities, the Hauptamt effected the enrollment in the Nazi party of large numbers of teachers, in some localities the majority.[2] It also achieved the elimination of teachers regarded as unreliable from the Nazi viewpoint. It likewise bears the responsibility for having transformed the teaching plans of the schools into curricula adapted for the systematic indoctrination of German youth with Nazi ideology.

b. Hauptamt für Volkstumfragen (Main Office for Folkdom) This Office was set up by an Order of the Führer on 12 March 1942,[3] and taken

1. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 253.
2. Cf. report on the state of educational system in Leipzig and nearby rural areas, on file with OSS, A-59096.
3. "Verfügung des Führers über die Errichtung des Hauptamtes für Volkstumsfragen bei der Reichsleitung und von Ämtern für Volkstumsfragen in den Gauen und Kreisen der NSDAP." Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943.

over by Himmler who was made responsible for all questions either directly or indirectly related to German Folkdom (Volkstum). He was told to adopt whatever executive measures he deemed necessary, with the cooperation of the Chief of the Party Chancellery, the Reich Treasurer, and the Reich Leader for Organization (Reichsorganisationsleiter). Himmler's deputy in this Office was Erich Cassel.

Offices were set up on all administrative levels. The Chief Office on the Reich level had one Central Office and four Sub-Offices. This Central Office, under the direction of Cassel, was responsible for Personnel, Organization, and Indoctrination in German Racial Questions. The Office for Press Censorship for German Racial Questions was attached to it. The four Sub-Offices had, respectively, responsibilities for the following:

i. German Racial Tasks for the Consolidation of the German Race;

ii. Deutschtum (Germandom) and Fremdvolkgruppen (Foreign Ethnic Groups);

iii. Racial Questions (Volkstumsarbeit);

iv. Settlement (Siedlungsplanung) for the Consolidation of Germandom.

3. Ämter der NSDAP (Offices of the National Socialist Party) The following were the Ämter of the NSDAP. Two are discussed below. The others have been treated in another report dealing with war crimes.

Aussenpolitisches Amt der NSDAP - Office for Foreign Policy[1]
Reichsleiter Alfred Rosenberg - Berlin W 35, Margaretenstr. 17

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1. See below

Kolonialpolitisches Amt der NSDAP - Office for Colonial Policy
Reichsleiter Franz Ritter von Epp - Munchen 22, Prinzregentenstrasse 7

Amt für Sippenforschung der NSDAP - Office for Genealogy [1]
Hauptbereichsleiter Dr. Kurt Mayer - Berlin NW 7, Schiffbauerdamm 26

Rassenpolitisches Amt der NSDAP - Office for Racial Policy
Hauptdienstleiter Dr. med. Walter Gross - Berlin W 15 Sachsische Strasse 69

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1. See below.

a. The Aussenpolitisches Amt der NSDAP (Foreign Political Office of the Party). (Former Address: Berlin W 35, Margaretenstr. 17)

The head of this office was Reichsleiter Alfred Rosenberg. According to the official Party definition[1], it had the following tasks:

1. "To observe the political situation in foreign countries from the viewpoint of the National Socialist Weltanschauung and to follow up and carry out the tasks which this analysis suggests;
2. "To imbue all offices and formations of the Party with the political aims and endeavors of the National Socialist State in foreign countries;
3. "To enlighten all foreign countries, especially foreigners visiting Germany or staying in Germany as representatives of the (foreign) press, as to the meaning and objectives of National Socialism, in order to arouse the understanding of other nations of the exigencies of the German people." [2]

Aside from the somewhat nebulous purpose indicated under 1 above, the tasks of the Foreign Political Office, then, were primarily propagandistic, namely to popularize Nazi foreign politics, at home and abroad. By the same token, the functions of the Foreign Political Office remained closely linked to those of the Office of the Delegate of the Führer for the Total Supervision of the Intellectual and Ideological Training and Education of

1. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 310.
2. The Nationalsozialistisches Jahrbuch, 1944, p. 193, expressed it this way: "The Foreign Political Office of the Party has the task of imbuing the whole movement with the foreign-political aims and endeavors of the leadership and to familiarize the foreign press with the ideology (Gedankengut) of the National Socialist Movement."

the Party (Dienststelle des Beauftragten des Führers für die Überwachung der gesamten geistigen und weltanschaulichen Schulung und Erziehung der NSDAP), which was likewise headed by Alfred Rosenberg. In fact, both offices shared parts of their administrative apparatus. Moreover, the policies espoused by the Foreign Political Office must be presumed to have been determined by the conceptions of Rosenberg, the source of much of the ideology of the Party and the regime.

Characteristic of Rosenberg's attitude in matters of foreign politics was his mystic belief in the "Aryan International" and in the mission of the "White Race" under Nordic leadership. His slogan was: "Aryans of all lands, unite!"[1]

The common stakes and strategy of the "White Race" were stated thus: "Great Britain undertakes to protect the white race in Africa, India and Australia; U.S.A. undertakes it on the American Continent; Germany will do the same in Central Europe in close alliance with Italy, who will have control over the western Mediterranean and complete mastery of the Adriatic so as to isolate France and to crush the French attempt to bring black Africa into the fight against white Europe."[2] However, Germany's leading role in the White Alliance was never left in doubt. Its mission was derived from the concept of "Nordic Europe": "....'Nordic Europe' is the

1. Alfred Rosenberg, The Future of German Foreign Policy, p. 142.
2. Ibid.

slogan of the future, with a German Central Europe. Germany is a racial and national State, as the central power of the Continent, as Guardian of the South and Southeast; with the Scandinavian States and Finland to safeguard the Northeast, with England in charge of the West and overseas, wherever the interest of Nordic Man requires it."[1]

Equally significant was Rosenberg's cry for German Lebensraum in the East. Rosenberg stated flatly: "All the land east of the Elbe, as far as the Narova, is land for Germany to colonize."[2] He underlined this declaration as follows:

> "The recognition that the German nation, if it is not to perish...needs land for its present and future population and the...view that this land cannot be conquered in Africa but must be acquired in Europe and primarily in Eastern Europe..forms the essence of German policies for centuries to come..."[3]

Both Rosenberg's demand for a "White Alliance" and his formulation of a "Drang nach Osten" were dictated essentially by his unadulterated Russophobia. Evidence of his view is furnished by his demand for

> "a German-Scandinavian block with the aim of securing land for 100 millions of Germans and also of meeting the Mongolian danger (sic) in the East; an alliance of this block with England, whose mission in India can only be maintained by preventing Asia (sic) from becoming a strong political block....Support for a racial policy in North America in favor of the white race; a Mediterranean alliance under Italy's leadership; a system of Yellow states in the Far East, and the common defense of the vital interests of the white race in the East by the

1. Alfred Rosenberg, Mythos, pp. 641-2.
2. The Future of German Foreign Policy, p. 18.
3. Ibid., pp. 20-21.

cooperation of North America, England and Germany."[1]

As to Russia, Rosenberg said:

> "The Russians will have to confine themselves so as to remove their center of gravity to Asia...."[2]

This was no more ideological threat. It was a reference to a prospective geographical as well as political status to be created through military conquest. Rosenberg stated it unequivocally:

> "The battle cry of the nation should have been: all soil conquered by the German national army should become the property of the German Reich."[3]

To propagate and further objectives of this type, the Foreign Political Office of the Party was organized as follows:

1. The Stabsleiter. (Chief of Staff) Oberdienstleiter Arno Schickedanz.
2. The Adjutant.
3. The Zentralamt. (Central Office)
4. The Arbeitsgebiete. (Areas of Operation)

   I. Länder-Referate. (Regions)
      1. Osten (East)
      2. Südosten (Southeast)
      3. Vorderasien (Asia Minor)
      4. Ferner Osten (Far East)
      5. Norden (North)
      6. Westen (West)
      7. Südwesten (Southwest)
      8. Britisches Imperium, Grossbritannien und Freistaat Eire (British Empire, Great Britain, and Eire)
      9. Uebersee (Overseas)

1. Mythos, p. 676.
2. Ibid., pp. 641-2.
3. Ibid., p. 541.

II. Aussenwirtschaft (Foreign Economics)

III. Presse (Press)

IV. Sonderaufgaben (Special Assignments)

V. Zwischenstaatliche Kulturbeziehungen (International Cultural Relations)

VI. Aussenpolitisches Schulungshaus (Foreign Political Training Institute)

V. Verwaltung (Administration).

The Zentralamt was administered in "Personalunion" (identity of top personnel) with the Zentralamt of the Delegate of the Führer whereas the Adjutant and the Verwaltung are both used by the Office of the Delegate of the Führer. The Stabsleiter was the executive officer and the representative of Rosenberg in matters concerning the direction and coordination of work within the Arbeitsgebiete and at formal affairs. The Zentralamt was in charge of all questions concerning the "politische Geschäftsführung" (political direction) as well as organization and personnel. The Aussenpolitisches Schulungshaus was the training institute for those assigned to political work abroad.

In the course of the years, the Foreign Political Office yielded a great deal of its influence in foreign affairs to agencies competing with it in the field of foreign affairs and foreign press relations, e.g., specifically, the Auswärtiges Amt (Foreign Office), the Propaganda Ministerium (Propaganda Ministry), the Auslands-Organisation (Foreign Organization), and the like. On the other hand, in his capacity as Reichsminister für die besetzten Ostgebiete (Reich Minister for the Eastern Occupied Territories), Rosenberg found a powerful medium to test the policies formulated and promulgated through the Foreign Political Office.

In sum, the Foreign Political Office of the Party must share the responsibility for both Nazi infiltration and intervention abroad and for the schemes of exploitation and extirpation practices in occupied territories.

b. Kolonialpolitisches Amt der NSDAP (Office for Colonial Policies of the Party) (Former Address: Munchen 22, Prinzregentenstrasse 7) Chief of the Office was Reichsleiter Ritter v. Epp.

i. Over-all Policies. Acquisition by Germany of a colonial empire outside of Europe was a Nazi objective consistently kept in view. Point three of the original program of the Party declared: "We demand land and soil (colonies) for the sustenance of our people and for the colonization of our surplus population." The Party leaders, it is true, later subordinated this demand to the immediate and prime objects of German foreign policy -- namely, the conquest of Russia, an irruption of German population eastward, and the domination of the world through Nazi hegemony over the Slavic masses bordering the Reich to the East. Alfred Rosenberg wrote:[1] "The recognition that the German nation, if it is not to perish...needs land for its present and future population, and the...view that this land cannot be conquered in Africa but must be acquired in Europe and primarily in Eastern Europe...forms the essence of German foreign policy for centuries to come..." Nevertheless, it should be noted, Hitler never omitted the claim to overseas colonies. In his Reichstag speech of 20 February 1938 he said:

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1. The Future of German Foreign Policy, pp. 20-21.

"The claim for German colonial possessions will be voiced from year to year with increasing vigor, possessions which Germany did not take away from other countries, and which today are virtually of no value to these Powers, but appear indispensable for our own people."

Again in his Reichstag speech of 30 January 1939 to the German people, Hitler declared:

"The theft of the German colonies was morally unjustified. Economically, it was utter insanity. The political motives advanced were so mean that one is tempted to call them silly. In 1918, after the end of the war, the victorious Powers really would have had the authority to bring about a reasonable settlement of international problems...

"The great German colonial possessions, which the Reich once acquired peacefully by treaties and by paying for them, have been stolen - contrary indeed to the solemn assurance given by President Wilson, which was the basic condition on which Germany laid down her arms. The objection that these colonial possessions are of no importance in any case should only lead to their being returned to us with an easy mind."

Again, in his speech of 28 April 1939, Hitler declared:

"The only demand I have ever made and shall continue to make on England is that she return our colonies. I always made it very clear that this would never become a cause of military conflict. I have always held that the English, to whom those colonies are of no value, would one day understand the German situation and would then value German friendship more than the possession of territories which, while yielding no real profit whatever to them, are of vital importance to Germany."

ii. Functions of the Colonial Office. The Nazi Party took over a colonial propaganda movement which had existed since the days of the Kaiser, and unified and Nazified it. The Party's purpose was two-fold: (1) to indoctrinate all Germans with an ideologically sound awareness of Germany's future role as a colonial power, and (2) to take practical steps to prepare a selected corps of colonial administrators and settlers. In the Reich directorate of the NSDAP a Colonial Policy Office (Kolonial-politisches Amt) was set up "to advise and issue directives for the handling of all questions of colonial policy and colonial economy within the National Socialist movement and its press."[1] This office supervised the activities of the Reich Colonial League (Reichskolonialbund), the Government's nation-wide instrument for propagandizing the colonial idea. General Ritter von Epp, a South German Nazi and a veteran proponent of the colonial movement, was put in charge of both the Office and the League.

The Reich Colonial League had more than a million members in 1939, organized in some 8,000 local branches. Its work was carried on by seven departments: Propaganda, Colonial Education and Science, Organization and Personnel, Cultural Tasks, Colonial Welfare, Treasury, and Publications.

iii. Functions of the League. The main functions of the Reich Colonial League were the issuance of propaganda, colonial training, and fifth-column preparation. The slogan "Colonies without War" (Kolonien ohne Krieg) was adopted, and meetings, exhibitions, and lectures were organized throughout Germany, to acquaint the nation with tropical overseas

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1. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 7th ed., 1943, p. 327.

areas and with Germany's claim to them. Future colonial administrators and settlers -- in part made up of native Germans and in part of the sons of German settlers from the former colonies -- received intensive specialized training in colonial problems in schools and camps at Letten, Bitterfeld, Ladeburg, and elsewhere in the Reich.[1] Financial support was sent to German schools in former German Southwest and Southeast Africa, and books and periodicals colored with Nazi ideology were regularly supplied to the farmers and planters of these remaining outposts. Attempts were made to find employment in the former German colonies for German women and girls from Germany.

iv. Ultimate Intent. While the work of the Colonial Policy Office and the Reich Colonial League never came to fruition, the program and activities of these organizations fitted neatly into the Nazi program of world conquest and constitute corroborative proof of the German intention of overthrowing the existing world order. Propaganda for colonies was one essential element in the Nazis' astute psychological campaign to prepare the German people for a war to overthrow the "Dictate" of Versailles. The training of colonial leaders and the maintenance of an intensive propaganda among the remnants of German settlements in the former colonies further, were intended to build up a German fifth column, ready to exploit any Allied weakness and to provide a base for the armed forces of the Third Reich at the opportune moment.

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1. I.e., the Co-operative for Settlement and Colonization at Letten, near Laufen; the retraining workshops for settlers and emigrants at Bitterfeld; the Reich Colonial League School at Ladeburg, near Bernau; the German Colonial School at Witzenhausen on the Werra; the Reich Colonial Administration School; and the Colonial Geographical Institute of Berlin University.

E. The Gauleitung and the Lower Regional Authorities.

1. Gau 1 - 42

a. General Functions. As has been noted above,[1] "regional controls" constituted one of the four vital principles of control within the Party structure. Vertically the Party was subdivided into major regions, Gaue, which, in turn, were subdivided into Kreise, Ortsgruppen, Zellen, and Blöcke. According to the leadership principle, these regional units were headed by "sub-leaders" of the Führer. In contradistinction to the various affiliated associations and supervised organizations, which were each concerned with one specific activity or group of the population, the regional units were supposed to coordinate all Party functions and those of their affiliates and charges within the same geographical area, the so-called Hoheitsgebiet, i.e., region of sovereignty. Its leaders were therefore considered as being endowed with Party "sovereignty," and were titular "bearers of sovereignty" (Hoheitsträger). In their sphere of jurisdiction, they were supposed to represent the Party as such. Each Gauleiter, and, to a lesser extent, also each Kreisleiter and Party chief of each lower region was "a little Hitler" in his sphere of jurisdiction. Moreover,

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1 See above, Part II Chapter A.

each holder of an office in the regional organization of the Party, in contradistinction to officials in the specialized affiliations and organizations was considered a "political leader" (Politischer Leiter). The function and significance of these officials, and of the Gauleiter in particular, thus was a general political one: to guarantee the authority of the Nazi regime within his area; to coordinate the activities of the Party and all its affiliates and charges, and to integrate in the Party organization the "totality of public life."

The Gauleitung, then, did not function as a collective body. It is true that the Gauleiter were from time to time convened in their entirety, usually by the Führer or his deputy, but this apparently, was not done in order to have them decide upon general policies, but to listen to some exhortative speech or to receive directives for policies to be followed in the Gaue, particularly in cases where coordination of effort seemed expedient, such as an over-all propaganda campaign, or some anti-Church or anti-Jewish campaign. In such instances the Gauleiter would often be made responsible for smooth execution in their respective areas.

b. Party Functions. The Gauleiter's major functions can be divided into two main groups: functions which they exercised as Party agents proper; and functions which were

conferred upon them in addition to their status as Party agents -- for instance, in the realm of State administration.

1. The Gauleiter as Party Agents. The Gauleiter in this capacity had three main functions: to rule over the Party proper in the Gau; to supervise and direct the activities of the affiliated and supervised Party organizations in the Gau; and to extend the influence of the Party over population and life in his Gau generally.

(1). The Gauleiter as Chief of the Party Organization. In the first instance, the Gauleiter represented for his Gau the Party internally, i.e., vis-à-vis Party members, affiliates, and supervised organizations, and externally, vis-à-vis the general population. He was superior to all Party offices and Party officials in the Gau. He was endowed with disciplinary and punitive power over these officials as well as over Party members in general, which power he exercised in conjunction with the Party courts (for the Gau: Gaugericht). He thus watched over the political reliability of members and officials. While he himself was appointed by the Führer, he had the right to appoint major officials in Gau, Kreis, and subordinate units, and he had to be heard in the appointment of certain functionaries on his staff by their functional superiors within the Reichsleitung. The same applied to dismissals.

The Gauleiter, as the leader of the Party in the Gau, was, above all, concerned with the proper organization of the Party structure in the Gau, which included questions of personnel as well as financial organization and legal problems concerning the Party. He had to see to it that all Party officials were properly trained and "educated" in the Nazi spirit and the Nazi philosophy. The offices and procedures used for these purposes will be discussed below.

(2). The Gauleiter as political coordinator of Party Organizations. One of the major principles of the organization and structure of the Party dictated that the chiefs of the regional units as Hoheitsträger should coordinate all Party activities and organizations, including the specific activities of the affiliated associations and supervised organizations. For this purpose most of these associations and organizations were so organized that their regional spheres of activity coincided with the general regional subdivisions of the Party. Thus, in each Gau, there would also exist a Gau office (Gauwaltung) of the Labor Front, a Gau office of the NS Public Welfare Association, Gau agencies of the various Nazi professional organizations (Physicians, Lawyers, Teachers), etc.[1] The coordination and supervision of these

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1 For details see below, d, iv.

agencies and their chiefs were so regulated that while the Gauleiter retained "disciplinary" power over them, they were "functionally," i.e., with respect to the technical aspects of their different activities, directed by their "functional" superiors. Thus, a chief of a Gau Office for Civil Servants (who at the same time was Gau chief of the NS League for Civil Servants) would be directed by the chief of the Party's central Main Office for Civil Servants. The Gauleiter had similar, although somewhat more attenuated, powers regarding those Party organizations which, like the SA, SS, or Hitler Youth, were not organized according to Party Gaue and whose regional chiefs were not integrated into the Gau organization of the Party. According to the Party Manual,[1] he possessed for his Gau "the right to supervise the execution of all duties incumbent upon the Party, its formations (Gliederungen), and its affiliated organizations; he had the right and the duty to prevent public and private arrangements and activities which ran counter to the aims of the Party. The choice of measures which might become necessary through the exercise of this supervision was part of the special powers conferred upon the Gauleiter."

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1 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943; for details see Ibid., pp. 70 ff., 137-138.

(3). The Gauleiter as political coordinator of Public Life in the Gau. This more general function was clearly defined in the Party Manual[1] where it is stated that:

> "The Gau leadership - the Gauleiter with his staff - has to guide politically to become active creatively in a specific part of the Reich. Within his sphere of jurisdiction the Gauleiter is responsible for the entire political, cultural, and economic arrangement of all life and activities according to National Socialist principles...He is responsible for the general political situation in his sphere.. For his sphere he is responsible to the Führer for the political and ideological education and attitude of the Political Leaders, the Party comrades, and the population."

Which procedures and means were at the disposal of the Gauleiter for the execution of these duties is not quite clear from available sources. The activities of the Gauleiter (and of subordinate Hoheitsträger, like Kreisleiter) are sometimes termed "Betreuung" (care of individual Volksgenossen), i.e., they were supposed to help and assist them when in difficulties, to hold regular "office hours" (Sprechstunden) during which, in principle, every Volksgenosse had access to the Hoheitsträger, and the like. It is clear that, in practice, the functions of the Gauleiter were much broader and were not limited to these charitable activities and "public relations." Thus, e.g., the

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1 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, pp. 136, 137, 98a.

Gauleiter were called upon by the Gestapo to collaborate with the Security Police and other agencies and formations in the preparation and execution of the action against Jews in November 1938, when synagogues were burned, properties invaded and looted, and persons beaten up and arrested in pursuance of a concerted Party action.[1] On the other hand, it is clear that, in principle, the Gauleiter by virtue of their capacity as Gauleiter had no right to interfere with the State administration, the military, or even the private affairs of individuals, organizations, or corporations. That is to say, they did not have the right to give orders to mayors in their Gau, or to order the arrest of a politically suspect person. This would have constituted a case of gross interference with the rights of higher State authorities or with those of the Gestapo, respectively. Indirectly, of course, by using the influence of their office, through suggestions and possibly through political pressure, they were in a position to obtain the desired decision or measure. This lack of legal authority to implement broadly defined political functions probably accounted for the conferral on the Gauleiter of additional and specific positions and functions in government and administration and in other fields

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1 See teletype directives issued by Heydrich, of 9/10 November 1938.

outside the Party.

c. Government Functions Transferred to the Gauleiter.

1. Intervention and Patronage in Government Administration. Regarding the respective jurisdictions of Party and State administration the rule prevailed, in principle, that the State was charged with "the administration of things", and the Party with the care and manipulation of men ("Menschenbetreuung"). In practice the separation of functions was gradually modified by giving the Party, and in particular its Hoheitsträger, influence over matters of Government and administration. This was sometimes done indirectly, a s may be illustrated by the authority granted to the Gauleiter in matters of appointments to the civil service, and by the powers of Gauleiter and Kreisleiter in municipal government.

According to article 26 of the German Civil Service Act of 26 January 1937[1] and the executive decree of 29 June 1937[2], only politically reliable persons could be appointed civil servants. The attestation of political reliability was entrusted to Hoheitsträger of the Party, among them the Gauleiter, for certain categories of civil servants. It is clear that this power was bound to establish each Gauleiter as the political "boss" of officials appointed on his

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1 RGBl. Part I, p. 39.
2 RGBl. Part I, p. 669.

recommendation to a post within his Gau.

The German Municipalities Code of 30 January 1935[1] provided for the office of a "Party Delegate" (Beauftragter der NSDAP) for each municipality with important functions in municipal government, particularly as far as appointments were concerned. According to executive decree of 26 March 1935[2] the Kreisleiter were, in general, to hold this office; but the Gauleiter were authorized to provide them with binding instructions, and in certain cases, to take over the functions of the Party Delegates themselves. Apart from the right of intervention in municipal affairs implied therein, the liberal use of this authority in the long run established Party sponsorship and patronage in matters of municipal administration.

ii. Infiltration in the Government. In order to strengthen the hold of the Party over the governmental and administrative machine, important positions were entrusted to high Party personages. Gauleiter were given positions in the field of regional government, central government, and, after the outbreak of the war, the administration of occupied territories. This was achieved through the device of establishing the "personal identity of two offices," as, for

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1 RGBl. Part I, p. 49.
2 RGBl. Part I, p. 470.

example, filling positions of state government with Gauleiter.

(1). Gauleiter in Regional Government. In the regional administration, the areas of Party and of State government, i.e., Gaue on the one hand, and Länder or Provinces on the other, were not always identical but frequently overlapping. The problem of "personal identity" between the Gauleiter and the head of the Länder or provincial administration could therefore not be solved simply by appointing each Gauleiter to head the Land or province. In practice, the position of all Reich Governors, as heads of the Länder, and of most Provincial Presidents, as chiefs of provincial administrations, was in the end given to those Gauleiter whose Gau coincided with, or was contained in, the respective government area. This did not make the administration of such areas Party administration, since the Gauleiter, qua Reich Governors etc., acted, not in their capacity as Gauleiter but as state functionaries, using the machinery of the state administration. It is, nevertheless, obvious that they continued to be first and foremost Party men, who would in critical cases subordinate State interests to Party interests and generally rule over their regions in accordance with the principles of Party philosophy.

A higher degree of concentration of authority was achieved in the case of the Reichsgaue which were created

in territories incorporated into the Reich (Austria, Sudetenland, etc.). Here, each Reichsgau, as government unit, was also Party Gau, the area of the Reich Governor coinciding totally with his area as Gauleiter.

(2). Gauleiter in Central Government Functions. Some of the more important Gauleiter were entrusted with tasks in the central government which gave them a chance strongly to influence or formulate over-all policies, as, e.g., in the case of Goebbels, Gauleiter of Berlin, who became Propaganda Minister and Plenipotentiary for Total Mobilization; Sauckel, Gauleiter of Thuringia, who was made Commissioner General for Manpower. Here, of course, both functions were entirely separate, often exercised at separate places.

(3). Gauleiter with Powers over Occupied Territories. Gauleiter played a major role in the administration of territories invaded and occupied during the war. Sometimes, geographical contiguity was decisive; thus, e.g., Alsace, Lorraine, and Luxembourg were put under the rule of Wagner, Bürckel, and Simon, who were Gauleiter of neighboring Baden, Westmark, and Moselland respectively and who were made Chiefs of Civil Administration over the areas concerned. In addition, these areas were incorporated into the neighboring Party Gaue as Gaue, so that there was full coordination of

State and Party administration. The respective Gauleiter had all powers required to prepare the integration of these areas into the Reich.

In other cases, Gauleiter were chosen for personal reasons to head the administration of certain occupied countries or regions, thus, e.g., Terboven, Gauleiter of Essen, was picked to become Reich Commissar for Norway, Koch, Gauleiter of East Prussia and a Party "expert" on Eastern questions, to become Commissar of the Ukraine, and Lohse, Gauleiter of Schleswig-Holstein to become Commissar of the Ostland. Already prior to the war, the "digestion" of newly acquired territories was frequently effected by appointing a Gauleiter "special commissar for the integration" of the country in question into the Reich, thus, e.g., by making Bürckel, Gauleiter of Pfalz, and specialist in "re-integration," successively commissar for the re-union of the Saar, and for the "re-union" of Austria with the Reich.

(4). Gauleiter as Reich Defense Commissars. After the outbreak of the war, when it became necessary to coordinate all administrative, economic, and other affairs in the interest of the conduct of the war, the Gauleiter were entrusted with key positions. They were made executive agents of the main legislative and central executive agency of the Reich, the Ministerial Defense Council, and as Reich

Defense Commissars were entrusted with decisive powers over regional coordination of affairs.

Gauleiter as Reich Defense Commissars (Reichsverteidigungskommissare) were appointed first for areas larger than Party Gaue, namely, the Wehrkreise (Military Districts of the Army High Command)[1] so that, again as in the case of regional administration, only a limited number of Gauleiter could become such Reich Defense Commissars. Later, when more and more important administrative functions were put on a Gau basis,[2] the Party Gaue became basic areas for Reich defense, and each Gauleiter became a Reich Defense Commissar.[3]

The Gauleiter as Reich Defense Commissars were guided by the directives of the Ministerial Defense Council and other supreme Reich authorities, which had to use the Reich Defense Commissars as intermediaries between them and the governmental agencies engaged in matters of Reich defense. The Commissars were authorized to give directives to all authorities, except supreme Reich authorities and a number of special administrations as, e.g., the Reichsbahn and Reichspost,

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1 Decree of 1 September 1939 (RGBl. Part I, p. 1565).
2 E.g. labor administration, under Gau Labor Trustees and Gau Labor Offices, economic "self-government" through Gau Economic Chambers, whose presidents and vice-presidents were appointed under the participation of the Gauleiter.
3 Decree of 16 November 1942 (RGBl. Part I, p. 649).

and were supposed to cooperate with the military authorities in matters concerning the organization of civil defense in accordance with military requirements. For the execution of their tasks, the Reich Defense Commissars were not given special staffs, nor were they supposed to use the Party machine. They had to utilize the existing machinery of the general administration within the individual regions, e.g., District, Provincial, or Land, to which, for specific purposes, were attached Regional Economic Offices, Regional Food Offices, and Forest and Lumber Offices. They were further assisted by advisory Defense Councils, composed of the chiefs of the most important agencies of the area.

In the course of the war, more and more additional functions were entrusted to the Reich Defense Commissars, so that at the end, with the exception of such specialized affairs as administration of justice or police, almost every matter in the field of civil administration was coordinated and supervised by them. For instance, regional authority over price control was put under the Gauleiter as Reich Defense Commissars, and housing was put under the Gauleiter as Gau Housing Commissar. Goebbels, as Plenipotentiary for Total Mobilization, used the Reich Defense Commissars in a final effort to mobilize available manpower and resources. Cooperation with the military authorities in matters of

recruitment for military service had long been one of the major functions of the Commissars; it was their job to recommend key administrative personnel for deferment. They also were in charge of requisitioning buildings for military use.

Toward the end of the war, the Gauleiter or Reich Defense Commissars were charged even with military and quasi-military tasks. They were made commanders of the Volkssturm in their areas. They were further entrusted with important functions in case of evacuation of civilian populations before the invading enemy and in so-called ARLZ-measures, i.e., measures of evacuation or destruction of installations in the same case.

It is thus clear that throughout the duration of the Nazi regime but especially toward the end of the war, the Gauleiter held key posts in the structure of the Nazi state. They were considered to be the most reliable personnel in important positions. This confidence was not always warranted. But instances have been reported, for example Gauleiter Hanke in Breslau and other cases in which Gauleiter or Kreisleiter, often together with the local SS and police chiefs, proved the last bulwark of resistance in cities immediately threatened by the approaching enemy.

d. Organization and Structure of the Gau Administration

1. General Structure. The Gau as a basic subdivision of the Party was defined in numbers, boundaries, and capitals by the Führer himself and the Reich Leader for Organization.[1] This structure derived from pre-1933 times and was laid out according to existing election districts, i.e., not coincident with administrative boundaries. After the addition of Austria and other incorporated territory, there were altogether 43 Gaue. One of them, Gau Ausland, under Gauleiter Bohle, had for its territory not the Reich but, in a way, the whole world: In the Greater Reich, there were 42 Gaue, with 42 Gauleiter, more than half of whom were at the same time Reich Governors or Provincial Presidents. The names of Gaue and Gauleiter are as follows:

List of Gaue with their capitals, Gauleiter (with indication of major additional positions of Gauleiter, if any), and Deputy Gauleiter, as of 1944

1. Baden (including Alsace), capital Strasbourg; Robert Wagner (also Reich Governor of Baden and Chief of Civil Administration in Alsace); H. Röhn
2. Bayreuth (Bayreuth); Fritz Wächtler; L. Ruckdeschel
3. Berlin; Joseph Goebbels (Reich Minister of Propaganda); G. Schach
4. Danzig-Westpreussen (Danzig); Albert Forster (also Reich Governor of Reichsgau Danzig-Westpreussen); G. Seeger
5. Düsseldorf (Düsseldorf); Karl Florian; K. Overhues
6. Essen (Essen); Josef Terboven (also Provincial President of Rhein Province and Reich Commissar of Norway); F. Schlossmann
7. Franken (Nuremberg); Acting: Karl Holz, formerly Julius Streicher

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1 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 136

8. Halle-Merseburg (Halle); Joachim-Albrecht Eggeling; G. Tesche
9. Hamburg (Hamburg); Karl Kaufmann (also Reich Commissar for Ocean Shipping and Reich Governor of Hamburg)
10. Hessen-Nassau (Frankfurt a.M.); Jacob Sprenger (also Reich Governor of Land Hessen); K. Linder
11. Kärnten (including Oberkrain), at Klagenfurt; Friedrich Rainer (also Reich Governor of Kärnten and Chief of Civil Administration of Oberkrain); R. Egger
12. Köln-Aachen (Cologne); Josef Grohe; N. Bergmann
13. Kurhessen (Kassel); K. Gerland; M. Sollwig
14. Magdeburg-Anhalt (Dessau); Rudolf Jordan (also Reich Governor of Braunschweig and Anhalt); R. Trautmann
15. Mainfranken (Würzburg); Otto Hellmuth (also District President of Würzburg); W. Kühnreich
16. Mark Brandenburg (Berlin); Emil Stürtz (also Provincial President of Brandenburg Province)
17. Mecklenburg (Schwerin); Friedrich Hildebrandt (also Reich Governor of Mecklenburg); G. von Körber
18. Moselland (including Luxembourg) at Koblenz; Gustav Simon (also Chief of Civil Administration of Luxembourg); F. Reckmann
19. München-Oberbayern (Munich); Paul Giesler (Minister President of Bavaria); F. Fuchser
20. Niederdonau (Vienna); Hugo Jury (also Reich Governor of Niederdonau)
21. Niederschlesien (Breslau); Karl Hanke (also Provincial President of Niederschlesien)
22. Oberdonau (Linz); August Eigruber (also Reich Governor of Oberdonau); C. Opdenhoff
23. Oberschlesien (Kattowitz); Fritz Bracht (also Provincial President of Oberschlesien); R. Metzner
24. Ost-Hannover (Lüneburg); Otto Telschow; H. Peper
25. Ostpreussen (Königsberg); Erich Koch (also Provincial President of Ostpreussen, Reich Commissar of Ukraine, Chief of Civil Administration of Byalistok); F. Grossherr
26. Pommern (Stettin); Franz Schwede-Coburg (also Provincial President of Pommern); P. Simon
27. Sachsen (Dresden); Martin Mutschmann (also Reich Governor of Sachsen)
28. Salzburg (Salzburg); Gustav-Adolf Scheel (also Reich Governor of Salzburg); A. Wintersteiger
29. Schleswig-Holstein (Kiel); Hinrich Lohse (also Provincial President of Schleswig-Holstein and Reich Commissar of Ostland); W. Sieh

30. Schwaben (Augsburg); Karl Wahl (also District President of Schwaben); A. Mündler
31. Steiermark (including Untersteiermark), at Graz; Siegfried Uiberreither (also Reich Governor of Steiermark, Chief of Civil Administration of Untersteiermark); T. Portschy
32. Sudetenland (Reichenberg); Konrad Henlein (also Reich Governor of Sudetenland); H. Neuberg
33. Süd-Hannover-Braunschweig (Hannover); Hartmann Lauterbacher (also Provincial President of Hannover); A. Knop
34. Thüringen (Weimar); Fritz Sauckel (also Commissioner-General for Manpower); H. Siekmeier
35. Tirol-Vorarlberg (Innsbruck); Franz Hofer (also Reich Governor of Tirol-Vorarlberg); H. Parson
36. Wartheland (Posen); Arthur-Karl Greiser (also Reich Governor of Wartheland); K. Schmalz
37. Weser-Ems (Oldenburg); Paul Wegener (also Reich Governor of Oldenburg and Bremen); G. Joel
38. Westfalen-Nord (Münster); Alfred Meyer (also Provincial President of Westfalen, Reich Governor of Lippe and Schaumburg-Lippe, Deputy Reich Minister for the Occupied Eastern Territories); P. Straugler
39. Westfalen-Süd (Bochum); Albert Hoffmann; H. Vetter
40. Westmark (including Lorraine) at Neustadt; Wilhelm Stöhr (also Reich Governor of Westmark and Chief of Civil Administration of Lorraine); E. Leyser
41. Wien (Vienna); Baldur von Schirach (also Reich Governor of Wien); K. Scharizer
42. Württemberg-Hohenzollern (Stuttgart); Wilhelm Murr (also Reich Governor of Württemberg); A. Vogt
43. Auslandsorganisation (Berlin); Ernst-Wilhelm Bohle

The Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia, as far as Party organization was concerned, was divided up among Party Gaue Sudetenland, Niederdonau, and Oberdonau.

Each Gau was organized according to the same basic pattern. The leadership principle, of course, prevailed. The Gauleiter was the autocratic chief of the Gau administration as well as the superior of the chiefs of the regional Party

30. Schwaben (Augsburg); Karl Wahl (also District President of Schwaben); A. Mündler
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units included in his Gau (Kreise, Ortsgruppen, etc.). Within the Gau administration proper, he was assisted by a Deputy Gauleiter, one or several Gau Inspectors, and a staff which was divided into Main Offices (Hauptämter) and Offices (Ämter) in charge of specific tasks and functions. As has been pointed out above, those offices which were at the same time Gau agencies for some affiliated or supervised Party organization (e.g., Gau Propaganda Office, NS Public Welfare Association, NS League of Legal Officials) were under a dual control. Politically and regarding "disciplinary" control, they were under the Gauleiter, but functionally, they were under the corresponding agency on the central level. In cases of discrepancy between policies or directives of these two controlling agencies, e.g., between the Gauleiter and the chief of the central Main Office for Public Welfare within the Reichsleitung a complicated system was developed by which such conflicts could be solved.

ii. Deputy Gauleiter. The deputy Gauleiter was second in importance in Gau affairs. He was not only supposed to take over leadership of the Gau, if and when the Gauleiter was temporarily prevented from exercising his functions personally, but had important functions of his own. These tasks were fixed in detail by the Gauleiter. They comprised mainly the supervision of, and relations with, the subordinate

Hoheitsträger - above,all, the Kreisleiter. The Deputy Gauleiter was in all cases a full-time official, selected from among the most reliable of the Political Leaders.

iii. Gau Inspectors. Not too much is known about the precise functions of the Gau Inspectors. In principle, there was one for each Gau, and only in exceptional cases several. He was assigned special duties by the Gauleiter or his deputy, and appears to have been mainly in charge of investigating complaints and of coordinating subordinate agencies in cases of conflicts. He, too, was a full-time official of the Party and was selected from leading Party officials with wide experience in Party work.

iv. Main Offices, offices, and their Chiefs. The division of the Gau office into departments and their organization was regulated according to basic directives of the Reich Leader for Organization. Details were to be worked out by the head of that Gau Office which was in charge of organizational matter - the Gau Organization Leader. The offices can be divided into two groups. There were first those which dealt with over-all matters concerning all Party agencies and organizations in the Gau, including the so-called "Sachämbers"

Gau Staff Office (Gaustabsamt)
Gau Treasury (Gauschatzamt)
Gau Education Office (Gauschulungsamt)
Gau Organization Office (Gauorganisationsamt)
Gau Personnel Office (Gaupersonalamt)
Gau Propaganda Office (Gaupropagandaamt)
Gau Press Office (Gaupressamt)

Also in this group, although not an office, belonged the Gau Court (Gaurericht).

The second group consisted of the subdivisions of Reich offices supervising Party formations, affiliated associations, supervised and other organizations as well as the Gau offices of these Party formations, affiliated associations, supervised and other organizations:

Gau Public Welfare Office (Gauamtsleitung der NSV)
Office of the Gau Chief of the Labor Front (Amt des Gauobmannes der DAF)
Office for Rural Policies (Amt für Agrarpolitik)
Gau Office for Educators (Gauamt für Erzieher)
Gau Leader of University Teachers (Gaudozentenbundführer)
Gau Student Leader (Gaustudentenführer)
Gau Office for Civil Servants (Gauamt für Beamte)
Gau Leader of the NS League of Legal Officials (Gauführer des NS Rechtswahrerbundes)
Office for Racial Policy (Amt für Volkstumsfragen)
Gau Office for Technology (Gauamt für Technik)
Gau Office for Public Health (Gauamt für Volksgesundheit)
Gau Women Leader (NS-Frauenschaft)
Gau Office for War Victims (Gauamt für Kriegsopfer)
Gau Office for Communal Policy (Gauamt für Kommunalpolitik)

The main functions of these offices are indicated by their titles. The Gau Staff Office was mainly a coordinating agency, to secure proper and close collaboration among the various offices. Under it, there was the Gau Legal Advisor (Gaurechtsberater). The Organization Office dealt not only with questions of organization, but also with arrangement of meetings, supplies of the various organizations, and similar matters. The Training Office was in charge of the proper

indoctrination of Party personnel, including the staff of the affiliated and supervised organizations. Gau Training Schools (Gauschulungsburgen) were created for this purpose. The Gau Propaganda Leader, who was at the same time chief of the Reich Propaganda Offices under the Reich Propaganda Minister was in charge of all matters of propaganda and "culture" in the Gau, i.e., all Party activities in the fields of radio, films, etc. Being simultaneously chief of the regional "chambers of culture," he was, under the Gauleiter, the most important person in the field of mass domination and mass manipulation in the region. The Gau Press Office was in charge of the Party press in the Gau, including all publications of Party and Party organizations; its head also was to supervise the non-Party press of the Gau in matters of political discipline.

The offices representing the various supervisory offices of Party formations, Party affiliates, etc. were usually so organized that the chief of the Gau office was at the same time leader of the various organizations tied into his office and provided them with trusted staff members from among the reliable members of his office. These organizations, in short, were strictly supervised and politically coordinated from the Gauleiter's office. Thus, e.g., the chief of the Gau Office for Public Health (one of the Gauleiter's departments) was at the same time leader of the NS League of Physicians

for the Gau and provided this organization with staff officials from among his Party collaborators.

Gau chiefs of the NS League of German University Teachers existed only in Gaue where there was a university. The Gau Student Leader not only supervised the NS Student League (NSDStB) as the Party formation of students, but also the German Students' Society (Deutsche Studentenschaft), the organization to which every student had to belong. Gau Offices for Racial Policy were established only in Gaue where either non-German minorities or geographical nearness to territory where "Germans abroad" lived warranted such establishment.

v. Kreisleiter, Ortsgruppenleiter, Zellenleiter, and Blockleiter. The structure and organization of the Party Gau was substantially repeated in the lower units of Party organization, the Kreise, Ortsgruppen, Cells, and Blocks. They too were headed by autocratic Hoheitsträger (Kreisleiter, etc.) and organized into offices dealing with the various activities of the Party and the Party organizations. But the number of such departments and activities diminished as the unit dropped in the hierarchy, so that, while the Kreis office contained all or most of the departments mentioned for the Gau, the Ortsgruppe had fewer, and the lower ones still fewer. On the other hand, the connection of the leaders and the staff of these units with the population under their jurisdiction was

supposed to be the closer and more direct the lower and smaller the unit in question, so that the main function of the cell and the block was to supervise the people living in the respective districts.

(1). Kreis. There were roughly 920 Kreise. Their areas, which had to coincide with the corresponding administrative units, usually comprised one city or rural county (Stadtkreis or Landkreis). The Kreisleiter was appointed and dismissed by the Führer at the proposal of the Gauleiter. The latter was his disciplinary superior and gave him orders and instructions. The Kreisleiter, within the Kreis, had the same position, powers, and prerogatives granted the Gauleiter in the Gau. In cities they constituted the very core of Party power and organization.

(2). Ortsgruppe. There were roughly 30,000 Ortsgruppen. Their areas coincided with municipalities and usually comprised one Ortsgruppe. However, in very small municipalities (villages) two or more could be combined into one Party Ortsgruppe, while larger cities were regularly divided into several Ortsgruppen. The Ortsgruppen leader was directly under the Kreisleiter and was appointed by the Gauleiter on the proposal of the Kreisleiter. He as well as his collaborators in the Ortsgruppen administration were

usually not full-time officials but fulfilled their functions on a part-time basis (ehrenamtlich).

(3). Zelle. Each Ortsgruppe was divided into Zellen (Cells), of which there were altogether 110,000. They comprised parts of larger communities or, in smaller localities, an entire community. The main function of the Zellenleiter (Cell Leader) was to keep in close contact with the households and industrial and commercial enterprises in his area, particularly the Party members, and to supervise the Blocks. There were usually three more Party functionaries under his jurisdiction in the Cell administration: the Labor Front Street Cell Chief, the NS Public Welfare Cell Chief, and the NS Women's Cell Chief.

(4). Block. These were the lowest units of the Party organization, usually comprising 40 to 60 households. There were altogether 550,000. The Blockleiter (Block Leader) was the one Party official immediately in contact with the people. He was supposed to make direct propaganda, to spy on them, and to supervise and organize Party members among them. He was, like the Cell Leader, assisted in his tasks by block leaders of the Labor Front, the NS Public Welfare Association, and the NS Women's Organization.

F. Foreign Organizations of the Party

1. Gau 43 -- The Auslands-Organisation of the NSDAP

a. History and Background. The Auslands-Organisation (AO) or the foreign organization of the NSDAP was established in Hamburg in the fall of 1930.[1] Its first chief was Dr. Hans Nieland, who was replaced on 8 May 1933 by Ernst Wilhelm Bohle. Bohle was appointed with the rank of a Gauleiter and was on the staff of the deputy of the Führer. In the middle of March 1935 the AO moved its headquarters to Berlin and on 15 April 1935 it received the status of a Party Gau and thus ceased to be a section in the Reichsleitung (Reich Directorate of the Party). On 30 January 1937 Bohle was made Undersecretary of State in the Foreign Office, thus raising his status to that of holder of a Reich office.[2] Bohle was, however, unwilling to subordinate his foreign policy work to Ribbentrop, with the result that Ribbentrop removed him from office. After Hess's disappearance, the Party Chancellery under Martin Bormann took over most of the functions formerly performed by the Führer's deputy. Bohle was a member of the Party Chancellery, as he had been in Hess's office. No other Gauleiter held ex officio such high positions in the central Party administration.

1. From 1 May 1931 to early 1933 and again from 3 October 1935 to 17 February 1934 its name was Auslandsabteilung der Reichsleitung der NSDAP. From early 1933 to 3 October 1933 it was Abteilung für Deutsche im Ausland bei der Obersten Leitung der PO. From 17 February 1934 on: Auslands-Organisation der NSDAP.
2. For details on the history of the AO, see Emil Ehrich, Die Auslands-Organisation der NSDAP (1937), pp. 8-11, 51-52 (cited hereafter as Ehrich); RGBl., part I, pp. 187-188.

Moreover, Bohle had the right to attend Reich cabinet meetings when matters pertaining to his department were discussed.

b. Functions and Organization

1. Functions. The AO was established with the avowed purpose of Nazifying all German citizens of German descent living abroad. The implication of such a policy was to extend the political duties involved in the possession of German citizenship beyond the borders of Germany. Germans abroad were not to be maintained for their own sake but were expected to support, actively, the new German Reich. Bohle, in 1936, referred bluntly to:

> "The unconditional will to cooperate ... (which) has swept along every single German, regardless of all boundaries ...."[1]

While German legations and consulates continued, at least officially, to protect the interests of the individual Germans living abroad, it fell upon the Party to "substitute" for the government offices in regard to functions which the official German representatives could not assume without offending against the diplomatic code. These functions were of a dual nature. They consisted first of an attempt to organize German citizens abroad in groups. Bohle defined this task as follows:

> "... our Germanism abroad is composed of individual Germans who can only live as Germans if they form among themselves an indestructible community and if this community is incorporated in the community which Adolf Hitler has given their racial comrades in the Reich...."[2]

1. National Socialism, publication by United States State Department, p. 101 (cited hereafter as State Dept.).
2. Party Congress, 1936, quoted in State Dept., p. 101.

Rudolf Hess, when reviewing the accomplishments of the Auslands-Organisation in 1937, could claim:

> "The Foreign Organization of the NSDAP has brought together the Germans out there ... and, joined them with Adolf Hitler's Reich. The National Socialist care for Germandom abroad is maintaining an enormous number of Germans for the nation who otherwise would be absorbed as cultural fertilizer for other nations."[1]

The other task consisted not only in making Germans abroad aware of their allegiance to the Third Reich but in inculcating in them a sense of obligation to contribute actively to the cause of National Socialism. This postulate was conceived and pronounced as a deliberate departure from the traditional pattern of foreign policy and international relations. Bohle stated it in so many words:

> "In this, the Foreign Organization has followed wholly new paths; it has turned aside from the old unsuitable idea of the pure protection of foreign Germandom .... For a master race ... a protection of this kind would be humiliating. The Foreign Organization has, therefore, deliberately begun its work by placing upon foreign Germandom obligations to the new Reich, and it is a cause of pride for our German nationals beyond the borders that almost all of them have joyfully accepted these obligations."[2]

In similar view, Ehrich in 1937 defined the Foreign Organization as the extended arm of German national policies:

> "... the Reich and the people in the Reich do not exist for the benefit of Germans abroad, but demand the contrary -- that foreign Germandom shall accept and be responsible for that share of the nation's task which is assigned to it by Providence. The task of the Foreign Organization is to prepare foreign Germandom for this role ...."[3]

1. Speech at Annual Assembly of Germans Living Abroad, 1937, quoted in State Dept., p. 352.
2. Speech in Vienna, 1936, quoted in State Dept., p. 104.
3. Ehrich: Die Auslands-Organisation der NSDAP, quoted in State Dept., p. 291.

To accomplish these objectives the Foreign Organization employed practically all standard means of Nazi control, namely indoctrination, infiltration, propaganda, and, to a certain extent, even terrorization. Essentially, however, the Foreign Organization must be regarded as the prototype of Nazi agencies entrusted with infiltration of Nazi thought, policies, agents, and social, political and economic influence into non-German territories.[1]

The AO had supervisory authority over all branches of the Party and its subsidiary organizations abroad. All business of any such organization with its branches abroad had to channel through Bohle's office.[2] Party members taking up a permanent residence abroad were transferred from their Gau in the Reich to the AO. By decree of 16 March 1934 all members of the German merchant marine and all pilots belonged to the jurisdiction of the AO.[3]

ii. Headquarters Organization. The AO had its headquarters in Berlin. In 1937 this consisted of the following departments:[4]

(1) Staff of Gauleiter.

Deputies of Gauleiter: Alfred Hess, later SS Brigadeführer Ruberg

Personal Assistant (Persönlicher Referent): Dr. Emil Ehrich

(2) Regional Offices (Länderämter)

Länderamt 1: Northern and Eastern Europe

Länderamt 2: Western Europe (except British Isles)

1. Cf. Part II, Chapter B.
2. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP 1943, p. 143
3. Ehrich, p. 10.
4. Based on Ehrich, pp. 16-21.

Länderamt 3: Southeastern Europe, Austria, Near East

Länderamt 4: Italy, Switzerland, Hungary

Länderamt 5: Africa

Länderamt 6: North America

Länderamt 7: Latin America

Länderamt 8: Far East, Australia, British Isles

The function of these sections changed with the expansion of the Reich and for other reasons. Eventually they were reduced to six, but a new Kolonialamt (colonial office) was added.[1] These six remaining Länderämter are said later to have been further reduced to only three: (1) Europe (except the Iberian Peninsula and British Isles); (2) Latin America, Spain, and Portugal; and (3) the Far East, Australia, the British Isles, Canada, and the United States.[2]

(3) Department 9: Amt Seefahrt (merchant marine). Chief: E. Biedermann (about 1934).

(4) AO central offices in other Nazi agencies and organizations: (In contrast to the offices in other Gaue, these offices were under the direct supervision of the AO. Other Gauleiter had the right only to complain about activities of such organizations, but Bohle, conversely, had the duty to see to it that the activities of these Nazi agencies conformed to the policies of the AO).

Department 10: Deutsche Arbeitsfront der AO (German Labor Front).

Department 11: Amt für Beamte (Gau Ausland des Reichsbundes

1. OSS CID 124507, 28 September 1944.
2. Curt Riess, The Nazis Go Underground (1944), pp. 142-3 (cited hereafter as Riess).

deutscher Beamten E.V.). Civil servants' organization including foreign service officers, official pilots, and other officials.

Department 12: Amt für Erzieher (Gau Ausland des Nationalsozialistischen Lehrerbundes E.V.). Covered teachers abroad, and teachers in merchant marine and marine engineering schools.

Department 13: Gaudozentenbundsführung Ausland. Dealt with German college instructors abroad.

Department 14: Gaustudentenbundsführung Ausland. Dealt with German students abroad.

Department 15: Gauobmann der NS - Kulturgemeinde. (Departments Nos. 12 to 15 were organized within Department 21 /Kulturamt/.)

Department 16: Gaufuhrung des NS - Rechtswahrerbundes was the AO branch of the Nazi Lawyers' League.

Department 17: Arbeitsgemeinschaft der deutschen Frau im Auslande (from 1 August 1933 to 1 July 1939); from 1 July 1939 it was called Auslands-deutsche Frauenschaft; chief: Vera Behr. Dealt with German women and children under 10 years abroad.

Department 18: Jugendamt (Gebiet "Ausland" der Hitler-Jugend). AO office of the Hitler Youth. Chief was also in charge of Auslandsamt der Jugendführung.

(5) Functional Offices.

Department 19: Aussenhandelsamt (Foreign Trade Office). Its chief was also deputy Gauleiter for economic questions.

Department 20: Inspektionsamt. Dealt with mail, files, transport, security, etc.

Department 21: Kulturamt (Culture Office). Its chief was also Gaustudentenbundsführer Ausland (Department 13) and Gauobmann der NS - Kulturgemeinde (Department 15). For teachers and students abroad Department 21 had a Hauptstelle Schulwesen and a Hauptstelle Akademische Auslandsarbeit, which were equivalent to Departments 12 and 14.

Department 22: Personalamt (Personnel).

Department 23: Presseamt (Press and publicity).

Department 24: Gaugericht (Gau court). Staff and chief were the same as for Department 25. Had two chambers. Had no courts abroad, but only Schlichter (arbiters). Reviewed decisions of local courts of merchant marine department of AO.

Department 25: Rechtsamt (Law Office). Staff and chief were the same as for Department 24. Chief: Horst Hübbe, Deputy: Wolfgang Haeseler. Department 25 could train higher civil servants (Ausbildungsstation für Gerichts- und Regierungsreferendare).

Department 26: Amt der Rednervermittlung (Speaker Procurement).

Department 27: Rückwandereramt (Repatriation Office). Checked on Germans returning from abroad, eliminating undesirables.

Department 28: Schatzamt (Treasurer of AO).

Department 29: Schulungsamt (Training Office).

Department 30: Amt für Volkswohlfahrt (Welfare Office, later Amt NSV). Liaison with NSV and in particular the Winter Help program. Chief: Heinrich Poetz.

Department 31: Amt für Technik (Engineering Office). Closely connected with Department 19 and also under the same deputy of the Gauleiter.

iii. Field Organization of AO

(1) Regular Offices. In general, the field organization of the AO followed that of the Party Gau. In each country, the AO was organized as either a Landesgruppe or a Landeskreis, the latter being used for the less important country groups. Landesgruppen were further broken down into Kreise (districts), Ortsgruppen (locals), and Stützpunkte (outposts). Landeskreise had only Ortsgruppen and Stützpunkte. The staffs of each of these units were more or less completely patterned after the AO headquarters in Berlin. As soon as an area was incorporated into the Reich, the AO lost jurisdiction over it. This was also the case when an Arbeitsbereich (special sphere) was set up in territories neighboring the Reich.

Partial list of Landesgruppen and Landeskreise and their chiefs:

Netherlands (Landesgruppe): Dr. Butting, later L.G. Ruberg. Became Arbeitsbereich on 15 October 1940.

Norway (Landesgruppe): Hans Friedrich Neumann (also Chief of Security Police under German occupation).

Belgium (Landesgruppe): Adolf Schulze; deputy: Julius Heinrich Koch, (later chief).

France (Landesgruppe): Neuendorf, later Huble; deputy: Heide.

Greece (Landesgruppe): Dr. Wrede, later Dr. Boeringer.

Denmark (Landesgruppe): Julius Daldorf, Ernst Schäfer.

Croatia (Landesgruppe): Rudolf Empting.

Yugoslavia (Landesgruppe): Neuhausen, who later obtained a high position in the administration of occupied Southeast Europe.

Bulgaria (Landesgruppe): Josef Drechsler.

Nanking China (Landesgruppe): Siegfried Lehrmann.

Finland (Landeskreis): Wilhelm Jahre.

Manchuria (Landesgruppe): Hanns Günther von Kirschbaum.

Portugal (Landesgruppe): Dr. Horst Libbe.

Rumania (Landesgruppe): Ludwig Kohlhammer.

Sweden (Landesgruppe): Friedrich Wilhelm Stengel, later Köhler (?).

Switzerland (Landesgruppe): Gustloff (killed); later Baron Siegfried von Bibra.

Serbia (Landesgruppe): Müller.

Slovakia (Landesgruppe): Kurt Rudershausen.

Hungary (Landesgruppe): Henry Esp.

Egypt (Landesgruppe): Krahm.

Italy (Landesgruppe): Ettel, later Emil Ehrich.

Portuguese West Africa (Landeskreis): Kicker.

British India (Landesgruppe): Dr. Uchs.

Uruguay (Landeskreis): Felix Schmid.

Palestine: Schwarz.

United States: Walter H. Schellenberg

Spain (Landesgruppe): Friedhelm Burbach. Later Herrann Sack, Walter Zuchristian, Hans Hellermann, Hans Thomsen.

Japan: Erich Zeisig, later Rudolf Heilmann.

Argentine (Landesgruppe): Heinrich Vollberg.

England (Landesgruppe): Otto Bene.

(2) Other Local Offices. Merchant Marine: Crews on board ship were organized in Ortsgruppen or Stützpunkte directly under AO headquarters in Berlin. In addition, there were the following regional offices:

"Weser-Ems" at Bremen

"Elbe" at Hamburg; chief, R. Homberg

"West Baltic" at Kiel

"East Baltic" at Stettin[1]

(The last two offices were later combined under Alexander Wegener).

Harbor offices abroad.

Repatriation Office: Local branches in Breslau, Dresden, Düsseldorf, Hamburg, Munich, Schneidemühl, and Stuttgart.[2] Also a number of homes.

Training Office: Reichsschule für Auslandsdeutsche und Seefahrer at Hamburg-Altona.[3]

There was also a general branch office of the AO in Hamburg.

c. Activities.

1. Introduction. The official spokesmen of the NSDAP have repeatedly stated in public, that the AO was a voluntary association of Germans living abroad which wanted "to cultivate ... Germanism" and the members of which wanted "to be good National Socialists."[4] Specifically, the AO was said not to deal with persons who were not German citizens,[5] and it was claimed that the Nazis did "not want National Socialism to

1. Ehrich, p. 17.
2. Ehrich, p. 21.
3. Ibid., p. 21.
4. Ehrich, p. 13; Bohle in 1938, State Dept., p. 107.
5. Ehrich, p. 7.

trickle into other people as poison!"[1] Even after the AO had been accused of fifth column activities, its leaders repeatedly denied that it was an espionage agency or used in preparation of world conquest.[2]

In subsequent sections, it will be shown that the AO was a full-fledged instrument of Nazi policy, that it was a subversive organization, and therefore naturally also an organization which did its best to conceal its real activities from the public. The case against the AO can therefore be made not so much from the public statements of its leaders, as from inside observers and captured documents. The best known collection of the latter type of information are AO files found by the Loyalists in Barcelona during the Spanish Civil War.

ii. Undercover Techniques. The AO outside of Germany was not a private organization, but acted as a semi-governmental agency. Ehrich, a high AO official, stated that the purpose of the AO was to provide for the German abroad the kind of guidance which the Nazi state gave the residents of the Reich.[3] According to another official Nazi pronouncement, "the NSDAP was not a party in the ordinary meaning of the word, but was the state-supporting movement of the whole people, to which even the Germans abroad belonged."[4] The crowning symbol of

1. Hess in 1937 as quoted by State Dept., p. 107.
2. State Dept., pp. 105-108.
3. "Der Auslandsdeutsche entbehrt der staatlichen Förderung und Führung die dem Inlandsdeutschen das Gefühl des Eingegliedertseins in das grosse nationale Räderwerk gibt und ihm Einschränkungen auferlegt, wenn das nötig sein sollte.... Diese Lücke füllt die AO aus. Sie soll dem Auslandsdeutschen Ersatz für den staatlichen Rahmen sein." Ehrich, pp. 12-13.
4. NSDAP, AO, Jahrbuch der Auslands-Organisation der NSDAP 1940 (1939) p. 182.

this relation between AO and state was Bohle's appointment as Undersecretary of State in the Foreign Office.[1]

This union of the AO and the state did not remain a dead letter. When Switzerland prohibited the central Swiss office of the AO, a member of the German legation was appointed to run the AO in Switzerland.[2] Reich agencies used the AO for carrying out their public functions abroad.[3] Goebbels went so far as to call the AO members cultural attachés abroad.[4] Members of the AO traveled with Foreign Office courier passports, and even in countries where the AO was not prohibited, it was permitted to use diplomatic buildings as quarters.[5] Although every AO member was instructed to obey the laws of the country he resided in, he owed unbreakable allegiance to Hitler and unconditional obedience to him and his deputies.[6] The AO, in short, was as much an executive instrument of Hitler as was the Army.

1. Durch die Ausstattung des Gauleiters mit staatlichen Vollmächten erhält das Gesetz über die Einheit von Partei und Staat eine logische Anwendung auf die Reichsdeutschen im Auslande" (By giving the Gauleiter state authority, the Law on Unity of Party and State received a logical application to German citizens abroad). Ehrich, p. 31.
2. Bruno Grimm, Gau Schweiz (1939), p. 43 (cited hereafter as Grimm).
3. Reich Propaganda Ministry to AO, 24 November 1934, asking AO to supply a certain Spaniard with propaganda material; photostat in Emile Burns, The Nazi Conspiracy in Spain (1937), facing p. 48 (cited hereafter as Burns).
4. Program of V. Reichstagung der Auslandsdeutschen (Stuttgart, 1937).
5. Photostat of diplomatic courier passport issued by German Embassy in Madrid on 24 April 1936 to AO chief in Spain, Burns, facing p. 81; reliable and confidential eyewitness report on AO in the Netherlands, OSS CID 17468C, n.d.
6. Rundschreiben 35/34, quoted in Grimm, p. 39.

The AO's internal organization gives additional clues to its real activities. Correspondence was transmitted and kept under a system of security regulations. Codes were used; in one instance in anticipation of the German invasion of Greece.[1] The AO also included uniformed formations, such as the HJ, NSFK, and a "sport group." The latter's activities consisted primarily of drilling, outdoor maneuvers, shooting practice, and "special tasks."[2] Whether or not there was also an SA or whether the sport group took its place is not entirely clear.[3] It has ever been asserted that Germans were allowed in some instances to do their military service with local AO uniformed groups.[4]

iii. Propaganda. Although statements to the contrary were issued regularly by the AO, the AO did not limit its activities to German citizens, but in numerous instances propagandized non-Germans. This is confirmed by Bohle's statement that the attitude of AO members could substantially influence public opinion abroad.[5] The Spanish

1. Bohle's decree of 20 February 1935 on confidential treatment of AO official correspondence, quoted from AO Mitteilungsblatt sequence 27, # 37/35 by Grimm, 41; Bisse's decree of 17 May 1935 on the use of cover code names, translated in Burns, 65; statement of Dr. Wrede, AO leader in Greece, that several hours before the German Army entered Greece at 5:20 A.M. on 6 April 1941, he was advised of this plan by the German minister in Athens and that he himself thereupon gave over the phone to four German block leaders the code message 'Don't miss the bus.' State Dept., p. 468.
2. State Dept., p. 343 on NSSK; Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 33b on sport groups of AO.
3. Grimm, p. 69, has a picture of uniformed SA in Switzerland.
4. Riess, p. 144, says that this was permitted in the Argentine after 1936 and that the NSDAP had in that country infantry, cavalry (tank), and air force formations.
5. State Dept., p. 312.

branch of the AO, for example, was consulted by AO headquarters as to whether or not the Spanish anti-Semitic periodical, Lealtad, should be supported by German advertisements,[1] while the Barcelona group of the AO reported the anti-German "line" of a Spanish correspondent in Berlin to the higher AO office in Spain.[2] As pointed out in the preceding section, the AO was also used by the Propaganda Ministry to supply propaganda to a Spaniard. The AO in the United States corresponded directly with the Reich Propaganda Ministry and in turn was put in charge by the NSDAP of running the Freunde des neuen Deutschlands, an organization not entirely composed of German citizens,[3]

iv. Commercial Pressure. Bohle in 1937 said: ... British residents abroad are perfectly entitled to promote the commercial interests of their country whenever they have a chance of doing so. Similarly, no one can possibly object to our claims to exercise exactly the same rights on behalf of our German communities in foreign countries."[4] The AO gave this claim a very generous interpretation.

1. AO Auswärtiges Amt to AO Spain, 12 April 1935, photostat, Burns, facing p. 16.
2. AO Barcelona to AO Madrid, 16 August 1935, Burns, photostat facing p. 17.
3. Strauss to Weidemann, 14 June 1933, photostat in News Letter #53, p. 5. Spanknoebel to Strauss, 31 May 1933, quoted in Strauss to Gissibl, 11 June 1933 (ibid., p. 7), stated: "Der Stabsleiter der Obersten Leitung der P.O. der NSDAP. hat den bisherigen Leiter der Landesgruppe USA der NSDAP authorisiert, den Bund (sic) "Freunde des neuen Deutschlands zu organisieren und zu leiten." (The staff director of the highest directorate of the party organization of the NSDAP has authorized the former chief of Landesgruppe USA of the NSDAP to organize and to direct the Bund Friends of the New Germany).
4. State Dept., p. 393.

It had a chain of economic observers who were charged by the AO Aussenhandelsamt with the duty of reporting in detail on all importing, exporting, manufacturing, shipping, and mining activities within their respective areas.[1] Particular attention was paid to German firms and their representatives; every effort was made to Nazify the personnel. Thus the Aussenhandelsamt wanted in 1934 to know how many German Nationals, Party members / and Jews were employed by 734 firms in Spain,[2] and in 1935 the AO agent in Cordova denounced two "unreliable" Germans to the AO chief in Madrid.[3] The AO was also used to check on German firms which did not cooperate with the Nazis -- i.e., by refusing to export, by entering into "fake" transactions abroad, or by not using German shipping facilities.[4] The AO also on occasion undermined foreign competition, as, for example, in the case of a Spanish thermometer manufacturer whose skilled workers the AO, together with the German Foreign Service, the Gestapo, and the Thuringian government, tried to entice into going into Germany.[5] Even state secrets were within the ambition of the AO, as can be gathered from the order its Madrid office received in 1935 to find out details of an Uruguayan-Spanish trade agreement.[6]

1. Circular quoted by Burns, pp. 111-113.
2. Evidence cited by Burns, pp. 115-116.
3. Krauss to Zuchristian, 20 May 1935, translation in Burns, pp. 117-121.
4. Evidence cited by Burns, pp. 128-132.
5. Evidence cited by Burns, pp. 125-128.
6. Burbach to AO Madrid, 7 February 1935, translation in Burns, pp. 134-135.

v. Intimidation of German Citizens Abroad. As has been pointed out, the AO, fundamentally, was the Third Reich's prime instrument for keeping its nationals abroad in line. The AO not only investigated the political views of Germans abroad and tried to uncover connections with Jews and Freemasons, but it also used all the high pressure methods at its disposal to weed out those who opposed the Reich. This was done (1) by threats of taking away their German passports, (2) by having them dismissed from their jobs if employed by a German firm or a firm dependent on German business, and (3) by cutting off the German business connections of those who were in business for themselves or who were business agents.[1] More direct methods were sometimes used, too. In Spain, in 1934, the AO had an anti-Nazi German student arrested on a trumped-charge by Spanish Police with the help of the German Consulate and put on a German boat to be returned to Germany.[2] The AO concentrated in particular on German officials abroad. Charged with submitting reports and recommendations on members of the foreign service as potential Party candidates, it was able to comb out "undesirables"; in at least one country, the AO even had " a recognized right in the appointment and dismissal of consuls" and was consequently able to coerce them into "cooperation."[3]

1. Confidential and reliable eyewitness report on AO in Netherlands in OSS CID 17,680; Burns, pp. 110-176, passim.
2. Evidence cited by Burns, pp. 138-143.
3. Hellermann to Vice Consul Beisek in San Sebastian, 17 June 1936, in Burns, pp. 87-88. Cf. also Burns, pp. 88-93, 100-105.

vi. Fifth Column Activities. The Nazis gave no publicity to the fifth column activities of the AO. Ehrich stated in 1937 that "the diversity of conditions abroad requires that the Central Office of the Foreign Organization have offices which are continuously and precisely informed concerning all events abroad that are in any way connected with and exert influence on foreign Germandom..."[1]

Bohle in 1941 made a statement suggesting the success of such activities in the Nazi conquest of Europe when he said: "The year of victory (1940) has also proved that the Germans abroad maintain their unconditional allegiance to the Führer....An evaluation of their heroic actions will be reserved for a later period."[2]

These activities apparently go back to the earliest years of the AO. In Spain, it operated an illegal courier service via German boats.[3] It also -- in early 1936 -- displayed great interest in promoting the sport of gliding in Spain.[4] While its role in preparing the Franco revolt is not quite clear, it is certain that the AO knew which German agents were active in Spain; on at least one occasion it had to stop some of its over-ardent members from attacking these agents for what appeared to be a gross lack of Nazi zeal.[5] It has, moreover, been flatly reported that those German agents who did the groundwork for Franco maintained close contact with the AO.[6] By its very nature,

1. State Dept., p. 295.
2. NSDAP, AO, Jahrbuch der Auslands-Organisation der NSDAP 1941, vol. I, p. 8.
3. Evidence cited by Burns, pp. 112-113.
4. Evidence cited by Burns, pp. 202,225.
5. Evidence cited by Burns, pp. 196,214.
6. Evidence cited by Burns, pp. 184-185.

indeed, the AO could hardly remain aloof from such work.

In Holland, certainly, the AO cooperated fully for many years in preparations for the German invasion. The AO director for Holland, a Dr. Butting, shared a house for official purposes with the German military intelligence agent. Both were members of the Legation and their house enjoyed diplomatic immunity; there they operated a short-wave transmitter. Butting cooperated fully in providing the Wehrmacht with all the information it needed, collecting it from local AO groups and members as well as from confidential agents of the German Army. Butting, moreover, played his part in softening up the Dutch by providing their unemployed with temporary work in Germany, etc., with the result that hundreds of Dutchmen went to the German legation in September 1939 to volunteer for service (including espionage). Butting was also influential in impressing Dutch businessmen with Nazi strength, helping to neutralize the Dutch resistance potential, and he had a hand in the intrigue by which the Netherlands before the war was persuaded to place an order for military aircraft with a German firm -- with the result that few if any planes were ever delivered.[1]

In Greece, local AO members (many of them in uniform) were on the spot, ready and able to offer the Germans effective assistance the day they occupied Athens.

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1. Confidential and reliable eyewitness report, OSS CID 17/630.
2. State Dept., p. 470.

d. Summary. There can, in brief, be little doubt of the illegal and criminal character of the whole AO, even though specific instances of criminal action by each branch in each area, are not available here. Its opportunities for infiltration, subversion, and even terrorism in foreign countries made it an ideal Nazi tool in the plot to conquer Europe and the World.

2. The Arbeitsbereiche of the NSDAP

a. General.

The Arbeitsbereich (literally, "sphere of operations") was a regional administrative unit of the NSDAP set up in the following conquered territories: the General Government, the Occupied Eastern Territories, the Netherlands, the Alpenvorland, and the Adriatisches Kustenland, i. e. in occupied territories which had German minorities. A new institution in the foreign activities of the NSDAP, it replaced the Auslands-Organisation in the above sectors, and undertook the integration of Party work with that of the German civil administration.

The Arbeitsbereiche operated, not under Wilhelm Bohle, head of the AO, but directly under Martin Bormann, Secretary of the Führer and head of the Party Chancellery.

Except for the Party Treasurer, no Reich Party offices could deal directly with officials of an Arbeitsbereich without the prior consent of Bormann and the chief of the Arbeitsbereich.[1] Bormann, moreover, had to be consulted by the leader of an Arbeitsbereich on all important matters of policy, organization, and personnel.

b. The Arbeitsbereich for the General Government. The Arbeitsbereich for the General Government was established on 15 August 1940, in accordance with an order of the

1. Decree of 18 August 1942 in Reichsverfügungsblatt of NSDAP cited in OSS CID 1183899 S, 3 March 1945

Governor General of 6 May 1940. The Governor General was the chief of the Arbeitsbereich, but his deputy, vested with plenipotentiary powers, took care of all current work and acted as the representative of the Party Chancellery in the General Government.[1]

The Arbeitsbereich was administered like a Gau in the Reich, with central and local subdivisions; the latter followed the usual General Government pattern of the organization. In many instances corresponding Reich and Party offices were held by the same person. The Arbeitsbereich had, in addition to these units, a paramilitary formation attached to it, as well as several other subsidiary organizations. The SA had 11 Standarten and 150 Stürme (c 15,000 men); the NSFK had 15 Stürme; and the NSKK 24 Stürme. The HJ had in 1942 13 Banne or 18,000 boys.[2]

As an auxiliary to the Government General's public administration, the Arbeitsbereiche participated in its illegal occupation policies. Its special function was that of Germanization. On 19 April 1940 it will be recalled the propaganda section of the General Government had organized Poles of German cultural background into a

1. Max Freiherr du Prel, Das General-Gouvernement (1942), p. 57 (hereafter cited as du Prel)
2. Radon HJ chief: Zwettler; Warsaw HJ chief: Becker

Volksdeutsche Gemeinschaft under Party auspices. On 7 May 1941, the Governor General decreed the establishment of a Deutsche Gemeinschaft to supersede the Volksdeutsche Gemeinschaft and to include all Germans regardless of citizenship who were not members of the NSDAP. This Deutsche Gemeinschaft had no administrative system of its own, but was administered by the Party through the Arbeitsbereiche.[1]

2. Personalities in the General Government's Arbeitsbereich

Chief: Hans Frank (also Governor General) Plenipotentiary deputy and representative of the Party Chancellery: Richard Schalk, until February 1944; thereafter Walter Tiessler.

Second deputy and occasionally acting first deputy: Adolf Stahl until February 1944; thereafter Stabsleiter Sundermann

Labor and Social Policy: Bodo Stahr

Propaganda: Stoessel

SA. Wehrbereitschaftsdienst: SA Oberführer Kurt Pelz or Peltz

HJ Befehlsstelle: Schimmelpfennig

Volksdeutsche Gemeinschaft: Heinrich Boltz

1. Du Prel, 56-59

4. Regional Organization. As of 1 September 1942, the regional organization of the General Government's Arbeitsbereiche was as follows:

District Cracow: SS-Brigadeführer Dr Wendler (38 units, 6 of which were in Cracow);

District Radom: Gouverneur Kundt, M.d.R. (5 county units and 35 locals);

District Lublin: SS Brigadeführer Globocnik (17 locals);

District Warsaw: SA Gruppenführer Dr. Fischer (34 locals);

District Galicia: SS Brigadeführer Gouverneur Dr. Wächter.[1]

5. Occupied Eastern Territories. The Occupied Eastern Territories formed the Arbeitsbereich Ost of the NSDAP. Its setup was similar to that in the General Government. Rosenberg, the Minister for the Occupied Eastern Territories, was also head of its Arbeitsbereich; its actual administration, however, was performed by Stabsleiter Friedrich Schmidt. This Arbeitsbereich, like the others, was under the Party Chancellery and had its offices not in Rosenberg's ministry[2] but in the same building which housed the Auslands Organisation's headquarters.

1. Du Prel, 287-289
2. Nationalsozialistisches Jahrbuch, 1944

The regional and local organization of the Arbeitsbereich followed closely that of the Reichskommissariate Ostland and Ukraine, most of the Reich administrators also holding the corresponding Party office; the higher officials usually had deputies to take care of Party matters. The Arbeitsbereich included branches of other Party formations and organizations, such as the HJ, SS, NSKK, etc.; little information is available on them.[1]

d. Netherlands. The Arbeitsbereich for the Netherlands was constituted on 15 October 1940 out of the Landesgruppe of the Auslands-Organisation for the Netherlands. Seyss-Inquart, the Reich Commissar for the Netherlands, had general supervisory functions, while the day-by-day administration was in the hands of Hauptbereichsleiter Fritz Schmidt and, after his death in June 1943, in those of Willi Ritterbusch. Both Schmidt and Ritterbusch were also Generalkommissare zur besonderen Verwendung (General Commissars for Special Tasks) in the Reich Commissariate; in this capacity they supervised German propaganda in the Netherlands as well as the Dutch quisling groups.

The Netherlands Arbeitsbereich was first located in Utrecht, later moving its headquarters to the Hague.[2]

1. Niekel was Chief of the Befehlsstelle Osten of the HJ; Lüer was chief of Befehlsstelle Ostland of the HJ.
2. Nationalsozialistisches Jahrbuch 1944

Its organization followed that of the Landesgruppe. Attached to it were various subsidiaries, such as the DAF, NSV, HJ,[1] and NSKK, as well as two schools, a theater, and a newspaper. Its activities seem to have centered around the issuance of propaganda and the organizing of Dutch sympathizers.

e. Alpenvorland and Adriatisches Küstenland. Arbeitsbereich Alpenvorland, comprising the area of German civil administration[2] of the same name, was organized around February 1944 under Franz Hofer, who was also Chief of Civil Administration.[3] In the neighboring Adriatisches Küstenland,[4] an NSDAP Operationszone Adriatisches Küstenland (NSDAP Zone of Operations Adriatisches Küstenland) was established in October 1944.[5] It was placed under the Chief of Civil Administration, Rainer, and had the character of an Arbeitsbereich.[5] It took over the AO locals at Flume, Trieste, and Ljubljana.

1. The HJ unit was the Befehlstelle Niederlände; the deputy in charge was Voss.
2. Comprising Bolzano, Trento, and Belluno
3. OSS CID 118389 S 3 March 1945
4. Comprising Udine, Venezia Giulia, and annexed Yugoslav territories
5. OSS CID XL 6389

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

Research and Analysis Branch

R & A No. 3113.7

PRINCIPAL NAZI ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED IN THE COMMISSION OF WAR CRIMES

THE NAZI PARTY (Part V)

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(Part V)

Draft for the Use of the War Crimes Staff

Owing to the urgency of forwarding this material abroad, the finished draft has received only a cursory proof-reading. For the errors which will inevitably stud the text, our apologies.

10 September 1945

Copy No. ___

SECRET

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PART V. THE AFFILIATED SUPERVISED, AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS OF THE NSDAP

Like the "formations," the "affiliated associations," the "supervised organizations", and the "other organizations" (Angeschlossene Verbände, Betreute Organisationen und Weitere Organisationen) were part of the Nazi movement but not part of the Party proper, All three, in varying degrees, represented an attempt by the Party to organize the essential sectors of Germany's professional and social life and to bring them under Party control. In this way, the leadership principle was extended to areas outside the Party, total subordination to and coordination with Party policies and principles were assured, Party control was secured on all administrative echelons of public life, and above all, control of the masses was institutionalized.[1]

As for the affiliated associations and supervised organizations, their establishedment in effect set up numerous clauses for political organizations as such. The Party determined what type of organization would be tolerated or desired and limited the number to those explicitly recognized by law or decree. The Party Manual[2] put it in this way:

> "Only those organizations can lay claim to the institution of the leadership principle and to the national

---

1/ See Part I,F of this paper: "The Principlesof Organization"

2/ Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 92

> Socialist meaning of the state and people in the National Socialist meaning of the term, which...have been integrated into, supervised and formed by the Party and which, in the future, will continue to do so.
>
> "All others which conduct an organizational life of their own are to be rejected as outsiders and will either have to adjust themselves or disappear from public life."

Of the three organizations, the affiliated associations constituted the most homogenous group, All of them were "juridical persons" in the sense of the law.[1] All of them, originally were supervised by an office-usually a Hauptamt - within the Reichsleitung of the Party. Established ostensibly to guard the interests of professional groups, the affiliated associations in reality were a pretext adopted by the Party to permit it to safeguard its interests within the various professions. According to the Party Manual,[2] the Party did not at all desire "a corporate structure alongside the institutions of the State." Instead, the task of the affiliated associations were to be of a purely "ideological nature" and membership was declared to be "voluntary in principle." In practice, however, very few professionals dared resist the pressure exerted by the Party to "persuade" them to join the association related to their occupation.

The affiliated associations set up by the Nazis are listed in the decree of 29 March 1935[3] carrying out the

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1/ Executive Order to the Law Safeguarding the Unity of Party and State, 29 March 1935, RGBl. part I, P. 502
2/ Op. cit., ibid.
3/ RGBl I, p. 502

Law for Securing the Union of Party and State as follows:

N.S. Deutscher "Arztebund (N S League of German Physicians)

N.S. Lehrerbund (N S League of Teachers)

N.S. Volkswohlfahrt (N S Public Welfare Association)

N.S. Kriegsopferversorgung (N S Organization for War Victims)

Reichsbund der Deutschen Beamten (Reich League of Civil Servants)

N.S. Bund Deutscher Techniker (N S League of German Technicians 1/

Deutsche Arbeitsfront (German Labor Front)

Bund N.S. Deutscher Juristen (League of German Lawyers) 2/

The supervised and other organizations of the Party, which were no less significant than the affiliated associations, had a variegated membership and a number of different functions with; Party control over them varied widely in degree.

The supervised and other organizations are listed below:3/

Supervised organizations

Deutsche Studentenschaft (German Students' Society)

N.S. Altherrenbund der Deutschen Studenten (N.S. League of Former Corps Members)

1/ Changed later to N.S. Bund Deutscher Technik (N S League of German Technology)

2/ Changed later to N.S. Rechtswahrerbund (N.S. League of Legal Officials)

3/ For a list of the controlling offices see R&A Report No. 3113.7, pp. 11, 12 of all three types of organizations.

Law for Securing the Union of Party and State as follows:

N.S. Deutscher "Arztebund (N S League of German Physicians)

N.S. Lehrerbund (N S League of Teachers)

N.S. Volkswohlfahrt (N S Public Welfare Association)

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Deutsche Arbeitsfront (German Labor Front)

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1/ Changed later to N.S. Bund Deutscher Technik (N S League of German Technology)

2/ Changed later to N.S. Rechtswahrerbund (N.S. League of Legal Officials)

3/ For a list of the controlling offices see R&A Report No. 3113.7, pp. 11, 12 of all three types of organizations.

Deutsches Frauenwerk (German Women's Work)

Deutscher Gemeindetag (Chamber of German Municipalities)

Reichsbund Deutscher Schwestern (Reich League of German Nurses)

Reichsbund Deutsche Familie (Reich League "German Family")

N.S. Reichsbund für Leibesubungen (Reich League for Physical Training)

Other organizations

Deutsche Dozentenschaft (Society of German University Teachers)

Reichsarbeitsdienst (Reich Labor Service)

Reichsluftschutzbund (Reich Air Raid Protection League)

Volkssturm (People's Militia)

Reichsnahrstand (Reich Food Estate)

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I. The German Labor Front (Deutsche Arbeitsfront)

A. General Character. Chief of the Deutsche Arbeitsfront (D.F) was Dr. Robert Ley, Reichsorganisationsleiter des NSD.P.

The D.F typified the principle of mass control by the Nazi Party. It destroyed the principle of voluntary association according to occupation or social status and it put in its place an organization without political independence but adapted to stifle incipient social or political conflict through rigid supervision. Its main function was the indoctrination of German labor with Nazi ideology. The German Labor Front was legally established by the Führer Edict of 24 October 1934, amended by the Decree of 12 November 1934.[1] The Front functioned even before its official establishment, without legal basis, as part of the machinery by which the Nazi Party first "coordinated" (gleichgeschaltete) and later eliminated the democratic labor unions.[2]

The Edict of 24 October 1934 defined the Labor Front as "the organization of all Germans working with brain or brawn," whose aim it was to form "a real peoples' and production community (Volks- und Leistungsgemeinschaft) of all Germans." The Front was to

> "guarantee peace in industrial relations by creating on the side of management understanding for the justified demands of labor, on the side of labor understanding for the situation of management."

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1. Reproduced, for instance, in Organisationsbuch der NSD.P., pp.185ff.
2. See "Crimes Committed in Violation of German Domestic Laws," R&A No. 3114.2.

These two groups were to be represented exclusively by the Labor Front; no other organizations, such as labor unions or employers' associations, were to be allowed to operate.

Actually, these definitions meant very little. The Labor Front was not an "organization of working Germans," at least, not in the sense understood in democratic countries. The Nazi regime did not recognize labor as a separate social or economic group. The Front took care of the individual worker's grievances if he had a good political standing or if other--generally political--aspects of his case recommended such intervention. The Front did not represent business as a group, either; its interests were represented by other organizations. The Front intervened in the interest only of individual employers enforcing rigid shop discipline of his labor force or supporting his demands for maximum performance.

The Nazi claim that the Front was set up to guarantee peace in industrial relations is completely misleading. Under the Nazi legislation, particularly under the Statute for the Ordering of National Labor of 20 January 1934,[1] industrial controversies were no longer permitted. Any conflicts of interests between management and labor were solved either by the dictate of the employer or by decisions of a special set of government officers, the labor trustees.

1. RGBl. I, 45.

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In its essence, then, the Labor Front was not an organization of labor or of other gainfully employed groups.[1] It was a huge bureaucracy carrying out the objectives of the Party in the field of labor in an authoritarian way. The main objectives for which the Labor Front was actually established were the indoctrination of labor and its political control. Robert Ley, who combined in his person the leadership of the Front with the position of Reich Leader for organization of the NSDAP, stated in his report to the Party Congress of 1936 that, at first, he had not understood the connection between his two tasks. Soon, however, he recognized that making the Party officials toe the line--his main task as NSDAP leader-- had to be supplemented by similarly disciplining the masses, and that in this respect, both his tasks were "completely identical."[2] He expressed the same idea in another speech in his customarily flowery fashion:

> "The Party is the guardian of the faith, it is the ministry and clergy; the Labor Front is the congregation into which the doctrines must be poured. The Front is the big bond (grosse Klammer) holding the masses together."[3]

All the various activities of the Labor Front, notably its welfare schemes and its leisure programs, such as the "Strength through Joy" institution, were subordinated to its political functions. These functions extended to the Germans working abroad and to the millions of foreign workers employed

1. For a detailed analysis of the Labor Front see Civil Affairs Handbook: Germany, Section: Labor, Chapter V.
2. Robert Ley, Wir alle helfen dem Führer, 1937, p. 23.
3. Robert Ley, Durchbruch der sozialen Ehre, 1936, p. 46.

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in Germany during wartime.

In the last phase of the war, the exploitation of labor for the war effort overshadowed all other objectives of the Labor Front. Robert Ley proclaimed "the mobilization of all labor reserves in the plants, the rational allocation of each worker, the assurance of the highest possible output" to be the only valid goal of the Front, a goal to be sought "with the greatest rigidity and severity."[1]

B. Labor Front and Nazi Party

The tasks for which the Labor Front was created--political control of labor and mass propaganda--were clearly indicated by its close connection with the Nazi Party. According to the Edict of 24 October 1934, the Front was termed a formation (Gliederung) of the NSDAP, in accordance with the Act to Safeguard the Unity of Party and State of 1 December 1933.[2] Its status was changed by the Decrees of 29 March and 29 April 1935[3] into that of an "affiliated association" (Angeschlossener Verband) of the Party. As such the Front, though subject to the financial supervision of the Party treasurer, had its own legal personality.

The close connection between Nazi Party and DAF was further indicated by the following provisions of the basic Edict:

(1) The Labor Front was to be "directed (gefuhrt) by the NSDAP."

1. Statements by Robert Ley, quoted in an article by Werner Scheunemann in Die Deutsche Volkswirtschaft, August 1944.
2. RGBl. I, 1016.
3. RGBl. pp. 502, 583.

The Reich Leader for Organization of the Party was, by statute, named the supreme leader of the DAF.

(2) The other leading officials were to be selected primarily from Party members who had been active in the field of labor and from members of SA and SS.

(3) The territorial organization of the Front was to correspond to the organization of the Party.

C. The Membership of the DAF

The Führer Edict of 24 October 1934 provided for two types of membership in the Labor Front:

(1) Individual membership of persons active in some phase of the German economy;

(2) Corporate membership through membership in another organization.

Members of former labor unions, the white collar workers included, and members of former associations of employers automatically became members, according to the statute. For other individuals membership in the DAF was never made obligatory by law or decree, but it was without doubt obligatory in fact for all who possessed the required qualifications. These qualifications included German citizenship, German descent (deutsches Volkstum), ability to work, and gainful employment, even if the latter had been temporarily interrupted by unemployment or illness. Foreign nationals could become guest members if they belonged to an organization that had a reciprocity agreement with the DAF.[1]

1. See the rules on membership in the DAF, published in Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 225.

Organizations whose members were corporate members of the Labor Front were, for instance, the Nazi-created organizations of trade and industry, the Reich Food Estate, the Reich Chamber of Culture, the NS Association of the Guardians of Law, and the NS Association of Physicians.

An official statement gave as the DAF's membership, as of 31 December 1942:

25,175,443 individual members;
10,700,000 corporate members. [1]

Membership in the DAF had a very limited meaning. Members did not participate in any organized way in the Front's activities, which were reserved to the Front functionaries. The latter, though numerous, did not amount to more than 4 percent of all members. Being a member, indeed, meant only being subject to the controls of this bureaucracy, becoming a potential beneficiary of the various welfare schemes run by the DAF, and paying dues.

The same dues were required from foreign workers employed in Germany who were not guest members of the DAF. Racially undesirable foreigners, however, were not eligible to any of the advantages offered by the DAF and did not have to make any contributions to the organization.

D. The Auslandsorganisation

The Labor Front included in its membership the gainfully employed German citizen in foreign countries. The Auslandsorganisation (AO -

1. Speech by Reichsamtleiter Dr. Otto Geiger; BBC: Daily News Digest, 3 May 1943.

Foreign Organization)[1] of the DAF covered all foreign countries that were in sympathy with the Nazi regime and in war-time particularly the occupied territories. Non-citizens were not admitted into the units of the AO. The Labor Front was, however, instrumental in promoting native organizations of corresponding character in the conquered or satellite countries.[2]

The Auslandsorganisation of the DAF collaborated closely with the Auslandsorganisation of the Party in the political control and indoctrination of German employees abroad. As in the Reich itself, the main objectives of the DAF abroad were hidden behind schemes of social welfare and organized leisure.[3]

E. The Werkscharen (plant troops)

The majority of the members of the DAF were not members of the Nazi Party. To assure political control over this majority--some of it indifferent or even secretly hostile--the DAF organized its most active and party-conscious members in every plant into plant troops (werkscharen). According to an official statement their task was

> "to assure the political obedience (Sicherheit) and the usefulness (Einsatzbereitschaft) of the plant community with all means and under all circumstances."[4]

The plant troops, in the view of an observer, were

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1. As to its structure, see F 2 below.
2. See "Agencies involved in the Commission of Crimes against Foreign Labor," R&A Report No. 3113.5.
3. For details, see OSS CID #77435.
4. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 196a.

"the political leader corps of the plant organized in an educational community of soldiers."[1] At the head was the plant chief (Betriebsobmann), a DAF official. His underlings, the plant cell and block chiefs,[2] formed the nucleus of the troop.[3]

According to an official report, in 1939 there were 9500 plant troops in existence. Their total membership was approximately 340,000.[4]

F. The Structure of the Labor Front

1. General Principles of Organization. The Führer Edict of 24 October 1934 established two principles governing the structure of the German Labor Front: (a) Its territorial organization was to correspond to the territorial organization of the NSDAP; (b) Its functional organization was to be related to an "organic order of things" (organische ordnung). Details were to be defined by the Reich Leader for Organization of the NSDAP.

Of these two principles only the first one was actually applied. If the second principle was meant to be more than a high-sounding phrase it would have required a corporate organization of the German socio-economic system. In practice the plan of such an organization was dropped early in the Nazi regime.[5] What actually materialized along these lines were only some secondary institutions of the Labor Front that connected the DAF with

1. Otto Marrenbach, Fundamente des Sieges, 1940, p. 54.
2. See F, 2, below.
3. Organisationsbuch, p. 196a.
4. Marrenbach, op. cit., p. 60.
5. See Organisationsbuch des NSDAP, 1943, p. 91.

the organizations of business.[1]

The Edict of 24 October 1934 did not expressly provide for an organization of the DAF within the individual plant. Actually, the Front developed a vast scheme of representation within both enterprises and plants, and upon its delegates on this level devolved many of the day-to-day activities of the DAF, in particular the political control of the workers and of management.

2. Territorial Organization. Within the Greater Reich, the Labor Front was organized on four levels: (a) Headquarters, with nationwide jurisdiction; (b) Gaue, covering the same territories as the Party Gaue, administered by Gauwaltungen (Gau administrations), headed by a Gauobmann. There were forty-one Gauwaltungen in Greater Germany; (c) Kreise, under Kreiswaltungen, covering the same territories as the Kreise of the NSDAP, headed by a Kreisobmann. There were 807 Kreiswaltungen in Greater Germany; (d) Orte (localities), covering the same territories as the local groups (Ortsgruppen) of the Party, administered by Ortswaltungen, headed by an Ortsobmann. There were 27,127 Ortswaltungen in Greater Germany.

In addition, the members of the DAF, who were also members of the NSDAP, were organized into street blocks and cells of the DAF covering the same areas as the Party street blocks and cells. Their leaders, the

1. See F 8, below.

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Strassen-Blockobmänner and Strassen-Zellenobmänner, were subordinated to the discipline of the corresponding functionaries of the NSDAP but they operated according to directives coming from the Ortsobmann of the DAF. They did not conduct offices of their own.

Within Germany, the DAF was set up in Landesgruppenwaltungen, fifty Kreiswaltungen and seven hundred Ortswaltungen, all covering the same areas as the corresponding Party units. The structure of the DAF outside of Greater Germany also corresponded to the Auslandsorganisation of the Party. Like the AO of the Party the whole AO of the DAF was considered as a Gau. The members of the DAF employed in maritime pursuits were organized in sections and subsections (Abschnitte) cutting through the areas of Gau-, Kreis-, and Ortswaltungen.[1]

3. Organization of the DAF Headquarters. The Headquarters of the DAF was called the Central Bureau (Zentralbüro). It consisted of a great number of agencies most of which were called offices (Ämter). These offices were, in turn, officially described as one of the following:[2] (a) Führungsämter (directing offices), which directed the various functional activities of

1. The details of the territorial organization are given in the Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, pp. 218 ff. The numbers of the various units correspond to the status of 1940, as reported in Marrenbach, Fundamente des Sieges, 1940, p. 24.
2. Marrenbach, op. cit. p. 23. Details of the headquarters organization are given in Organisationsbuch des NSDAP, pp. 195 ff.

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the DAF; (b) Fachämter (trade offices), which dealt with an industry or a group of industries. (These groups were formerly described by the entirely misleading name of Betriebsgemeinschaften /plant communities/).

The Führungsämter included offices with purely administrative functions, like the Adjutant's Office, the Office for Organization, and the Personnel Office. This group also included those offices established to maintain contact between the DAF and other central institutions of government or Party, like the Wehrmachtsamt, the Main Office DAF-Reich Labor Service, or the Liaison Office DAF-Reich Food Estate.

Führungsämter actually engaged in directing significant activities of the DAF included the following: (a) The Training Office (Schulungsamt), was responsible for the political indoctrination of paid and honorary officials of the DAF, including the members of the plant troops (Werkscharen). The Training Office managed or supervised a system of special indoctrination schools on the Kreis, Gau, and national levels. (b) The Propaganda Office was responsible for the less intensive indoctrination of the general membership. Its task, as defined by the manager of the Labor Front, was "to prepare the masses for the future objectives of the leadership of the nation."[1]

1. Warrenbach, op. cit., p. 78.

(c) The Office for Labor Allocation (Arbeitseinsatz) dealt with such specific labor issues as wage policies, hours of work, social insurance, etc. It worked in cooperation, sometime in competition, with the central agencies of the government, including notably the Reich Ministry of Labor, the Commissioner General for Labor Allocation, and the Armament Ministry. This office was also responsible for the functions carried out by the DAF in relation to the millions of foreign laborers in industry, covering their care as well as their political control.[1] It directed the staff of foreign collaborationists who functioned as "liaison men" (Verbindungsmänner) between the rank and file of foreign workers and the offices of the Labor Front. (d) The Office for Vocational Training and Management directed its main efforts, notably in wartime, to increasing the performance of the workers and the output of industry. This office, too, dealt with German and foreign labor. (e) The Office for the Health and Protection of the Nation (Amt Gesundheit und Volksschutz) was responsible for the health conditions of labor, foreign as well as German, and for the indoctrination of labor in racial questions.[2] This office was instrumental in developing a wartime system of factory doctors who, in many cases, concentrated upon keeping over-fatigued and ill workers at their jobs.

1. See R&A No. 3113.5, cited above.
2. See "Nazi Health and Racial Policies," R&A 3114. ?.

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The Trade Offices Fachämter dealt with industries or groups of industries (for example, clothing, leather, iron and steel). As the "vertical organization" of the DAF, they directed and supervised its activities in the individual plants.[1]

The organization of the DAF headquarters (Zentralbüro) was frequently changed during the ten years of its existence. During the war, there was a tendency to drop departments that were not directly related to the war effort. In addition, the majority of the departments were combined, in a somewhat unmethodical manner, into four "main war departments" (Kriegshauptarbeitsgebiete).[2] Their chiefs were:

Main War Department	I:	Otto Marrenbach, the manager of the DAF.
" " "	II:	Dr. Theo Hupfauer
" " "	III:	Dr. Bodo Lafferentz
" " "	IV:	Heinrich Simon.

Chiefs of main functional offices within these departments were:

Office for Labor Allocation: Franz Mende
Office for Vocational Training and Plant Management: Professor Dr. Karl Robert Arnhold; later: Dipl. Ing. Bremhorst and Dipl. Ing. H. Steinwarz
Office for Health and Protection of the Nation: Prof. Dr. Werner Bockhacker
Institute for Labor Research: Dr. Wolfgang Pohl

Chief of the Central Bureau was Robert Ley as Leader of the Labor Front, but the actual management was in the hands of Geschäftsführer Otto Marren-

1. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, pp. 203 ff.
2. Verwaltung und Wirtschaft des Deutschen Reiches, 1942, p. 3.

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bach. Under him some special offices functioned, including the following: the Press Bureau, headed during the war by Werner Scheunemann; the Referat Ausland (Foreign Desk), the liaison office of the DAF with all agencies and institutions active in work abroad;[1] the Mob-und Abwehrbeauftragte der DAF (Delegate for Mobilization and Counter-Espionage), a post held in 1942 by one Nussbruch.[2]

4. The Regional and Local Units. The organization of the headquarters was reflected to some extent on the Gau, Kreis, and local levels, although there were naturally fewer separate bureaus on the lowest levels.

5. The Representatives in the Enterprises (Betriebsbeauftragte). Within every plant with at least five employees, the DAF was represented by a plant chief (Betriebsobmann). The personnel of smaller plants was handled directly by the Ortsobmann of the DAF, who could seek needed assistance from the Strassenzellenobmänner and Strassenblockobmänner.[3] The Betriebsobmann had to be a Party member; he was appointed by the leader of the local group of the NSDAP following nomination by the Ortsobmann of the DAF and with the consent of the employer or the manager of the plant. He had to be confirmed by the Kreisobmann of the DAF. The relationship of the Betriebsobmann to the Betriebsführer (owner or manager of the plant) was officially compared to the

1. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 194.
2. Verwaltung und Wirtschaft des Deutschen Reiches, 1942, p. 7.
3. See F. 2, above.

relationship between a master sergeant and the captain of an army company.[1]

In larger plants the plant chief of the DAF headed the hierarchy of DAF representatives.[2] Such representatives were (a) in plants with more than 1,600 employees, the Hauptzellenobmänner (main cell chiefs); (b) in plants with more than 200 employees, the Zellenobmänner (cell chiefs); (c) in plants with more than 30 employees, the Blockobmänner (block chiefs).

In addition, certain functional activities of the DAF were carried out in larger plants by special delegates under the direction of the Betriebsobmann. Such delegates were, for instance, the Propagandawalter, the Gesundheitswalter, the Jugendwalter, and the Arbeitsschutzwalter (propaganda chief, health chief, youth chief, chief for labor protection).

Where several plants were parts of a single enterprise, one of the Betriebsobmänner could be appointed as Hauptbetriebsobmann (Main Plant Chief). He was the liaison man between the respective trade office (Fachamt) of the headquarters and the management of the enterprise, and the coordinator of all Betriebsobmänner in the enterprise.

1. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 206
2. For details of this organization, ibid, p. 206.

6. Honor and Disciplinary Courts[1] The DAF had its own judiciary organization, consisting of a Supreme Honor and Disciplinary Court at the headquarters of the DAF and of Honor and Disciplinary Courts in each Gau. In their role as honor courts, these tribunals dealt with members who had violated orders given by the Leader of the DAF, who were suspected of being "a social element"--another name for persons who were politically suspect--or who had not paid their dues. As disciplinary courts, the tribunals dealt with the officials of the DAF. During the war, the courts handled the cases of workers who had violated the rigid rules on shop discipline issued by the Commissioner General for Labor Allocation, Fritz Sauckel.[2]

The procedure of the courts was regulated by the Ehrenund Disziplinarordnung der DAF of 11 January 1936, revised 20 July 1939.

Official statements[3] claimed for the courts "full judicial, organizational, and administrative independence". President of the Supreme Court in 1942 was Dr. von Rentelu.

1. For details see Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p.209-e and Marrenbach, Fundamente des Sieges, pp. 31ff.
2. See Sauckel's Decrees of 9 December 1943 and 10 March 1944 (Reichsarbeitsblatt 1943, p. I 133; 1944, p. I 58.)
3. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p.209f.

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3. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p.209f.

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7. "Strength through Joy" (Kraft durch Freude)[1] The NS-Community "Strength through Joy" was founded in 1933 as a subsidiary of the Labor Front. It was one of the main instruments used by both Party and Front for the indoctrination and control of the masses, a job it sought to do by organizing the leisure time of the workers. The general objective of Strength through Joy was described by Ley, the Leader of the institution, in these words:

> "The Labor Front is the parade grounds on which we practice the people's community day for day, and Strength through Joy is the rule under which we practice."[2]

A secondary purpose of Strength through Joy was certainly to divert the attention of the workers both from the economic hardships under which they worked and from the loss of their democratic forms of representation. Something of this motivation was indicated in the following official statement:

> "The NS Community "Strength through Joy" has the peculiar historical task of abolishing the economic evaluation of the work life and of making manifest the ideal qualities of labor."[3]

Strength through Joy was administratively and financially separate from the Labor Front. The membership,

1. For a detailed discussion see Civil Affairs Handbook: Germany, Section: Labor.
2. Robert Ley, Durchbruch der Sozialen Ehre, 1936, p. 210.
3. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 210.

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however, was identical with the membership of the Front, and most members of the staff were at the same time officials of the DAF. Dr. Bodo Lafferent, the manager of the institution, was also chief of the Main War Department IV in the headquarters of the Front.

The organization of Strength through Joy was strictly parallel to the Labor Front in the Gaue, counties, and local districts; in all plants with more than twenty employees it had its own delegate, the KdF-Wart, who was subordinated to the Betriebsobmann of the DAF.

Functional offices in the headquarters and in the Gau and Kreis administrations dealt with topics like "Traveling, Hiking, Vacation," "Sport," "Adult Education," and "Beauty of Work." During the war, some of these activities were dropped while others were limited to armament workers. At the same time, Strength through Joy shifted its attention to the men in the Armed Forces. In the last phase of the war, Strength through Joy collapsed entirely.

8. Organs of "Social Autonomy" (Soziale Selbstverantwortung) Organs of what was called "social autonomy" were established in 1935 by a tripartite agreement signed by Robert Ley, the DAF chief, the Reich Minister of Labor, and the Reich Minister of Economics. This so-called

Leipzig Agreement was solemnly confirmed by Adolf Hitler and was later extended to transportation and to agriculture.[1] Under this agreement, the plans of a socialistic or corporative reorganization of German business which had been supported by the Nazi party in its early phase were buried behind a facade of new committees and councils.

Committees and councils established, or at least announced, in 1935 included the following: (a) Labor Chambers (Arbeitskammern) were set up in each Gau. A Reich Labor Chamber was placed over these local units. The various chambers were composed of representatives of the Labor Front and of organizations with corporate membership in the Front (e.g., the Reich Food Estate or the NS Lawyers' Association), and of other selected individuals. (b) Labor and Business Councils (Arbeits- und Wirtschaftsräte) were established on the Gau and the Reich levels; they were composed of representatives of the Chambers of Labor and representatives of business.

According to the Leipzig Agreement, labor issues were to be handled by these "organs of social autonomy." The agents of the government, notably the Labor Trustees, were to intervene only where the representatives of labor and business were unable to reach an agreement. In practice,

1. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, pp. 189-192.

these chambers and councils developed little influence over labor policies and employment conditions for they did not get beyond the realm of general deliberation and discussion.[1]

By a decree of 2 March 1943, Ley reorganized the Chambers of Labor and announced their revitalization.[2] There is, however, no reason to believe that they became more than sounding boards for the leaders of the Labor Front and the Nazi Party in their demands for higher performance of labor and greater output of industry.

9. Economic Enterprises of the Labor Front. The Führer Edict of 24 October 1934 transferred to the Labor Front all the assets and enterprises which had belonged to the trade unions and the associations of employers. Banks, insurance companies, printing shops, and publishing houses treated by the former labor unions became in this way the spoils of the Labor Front, which used them as the basis for assembling a vast agglomeration of economic enterprises more or less closely connected with the activities of the Front and of "Strength through Joy." Outstanding among these enterprises were: (a) The Bank of German Labor

1. See the detailed discussion in Civil Affairs Handbook: Germany, Section: Labor.
2. Deutsche Bergwerkszeitung, 2 November 1943; Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, 1 November 1943.

(Bank der Deutschen Arbeit). Under the name Bank der Arbeiter Angestellten und Beamten this institution was formerly connected with the Social Democratic labor unions. It had thirty-four branches in Greater Germany and subsidiaries in various parts of occupied Europe. (b) Two insurance combines, operating a great number of individual companies. One combine, the German Ring (Deutscher Ring), handled general insurance; the other, called People's Welfare (Volksfürsorge), specialized in life insurance. (c) Sixteen printing and publishing houses, all "taken over" from the labor unions. (d) The People's Car Works (Volkswagenwerke) in Fallersleben, a much-advertised venture for the manufacture of an inexpensive auto, but actually employed exclusively in the production of arms.

In addition, the Labor Front appropriated the various highly developed organizations of consumers' cooperatives as far as they had not been liquidated during the first phase of the Nazi regime.[1]

The economic enterprises of the Labor Front were administered by the Department for Economic Enterprises (Amt für die Wirtschaftlichen Unternehmungen) in the Central Bureau of the DAF. This department was part of the

1. Decree of 24 July 1941 (RGBl. I,452); see also Frankfurter Zeitung, 2 March 1941.

Zentralstelle für die Finanzwirtschaft der DAF and was therefore subject to control by the Treasurer of the Nazi Party.[1]

G. Criminal Aspects of the German Labor Front

1. The Labor Front was closely connected with the NSDAP through its organization and leadership. Moreover, it was conceived and operated as the device by which the Party indoctrinated and controlled the working masses of the German population. Thus, all the criteria that determine the criminal character of the Party, its objectives, programs, and methods, also apply to the DAF.

2. The Labor Front was the machinery by which the Party destroyed the democratic unions of pre-Nazi Germany.[2] The Front appropriated the assets of both unions and employer associations without recognizing their obligations. The Front was instrumental in persecuting the leaders of democratic trade unions. While the main responsibility for these actions might be placed in the leadership of the NSDAP, the Front bore at least an accessory share of responsibility and was the beneficiary of these crimes.

3. Considering the type of individuals composing the leadership and the bureaucracy of the Labor Front, no doubt

1. Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 212.
2. See R & A 3114.2 cited above.

is possible that great numbers of common crimes were committed in the financial administration of the Labor Front, particularly in the administration of the assets, including the economic enterprises "taken over" by the Front from the former trade unions. It must also be assumed that many of these crimes were not prosecuted or adequately punished in spite of the elaborate judiciary that the Front maintained in its hierarchy of Honor and Disciplinary Courts. Evidence could certainly be established from the files of these courts and from systematic questioning of the staffs of the various institutions and enterprises.

4. The Labor Front was used as an instrument of political persecution and terror to combat workers who were opposed to the Nazi regime. The organization cooperated with both Party and police in hounding such opponents. Evidence of such actions should be found in the files of the German police and in depositions of surviving victims of such persecution.

5. By organizing German citizens gainfully employed abroad into foreign units (Auslands organisation), the DAF contributed to subversive activities by which the political systems of foreign countries were undermined in preparation for the domination of Europe and the world. It may be assumed that the governments of liberated countries have seized

evidence of these activities in the files of the branches of the AO that functioned in their respective areas.

6. The Labor Front was instrumental in establishing native organizations of corresponding character in the occupied territories--Czechoslovakia, Holland, Belgium, etc. -- and cooperated with native fascist elements in destroying the existing democratic labor organizations. Again the evidence should be available from the governments of these territories.

7. The crimes committed by the Labor Front in relation to foreign labor employed within the Reich are discussed in detail in another paper.[1]

1. See R & A 3113.5, cited above.

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II. The NS - Lehrerbund (National Socialist Teachers' League)[1]

(Former address: Bayreuth, Haus der Deutschen Erziehung; Berlin W 35, Potsdamer Strasse 81 E)

Head of the NS - Lehrerbund was Gauleiter Fritz Wachtler. Operations were discontinued in March 1943 as one of various measures adopted by the Party in the course of total mobilization of manpower.

As the all-inclusive and compulsory organization of all German teachers, the NS - Lehrerbund superseded all voluntary associations existing before 1933 and coordinated their functions with the aims of the National Socialist Party.

To complete the system of indoctrination, regimentation of teaching personnel in the Fachschaften was supplemented by coordination of subject matter in twenty-four Sachgebiete (fields of knowledge) each of which applied to all types of schools. They included physical education, military education, racial science and science of living, history, prehistory, aviation and air raid protection, education for women, philosophy and pedagogics (including psychology), music appreciation, handicraft, boarding schools, biology, modern languages, ancient languages, geography, home economics, needlework, stenography and typewriting, writing and elementary instruction, school broadcasts, speech, still pictures and movies, mathematics and natural science, Germanism.

1. Cf. description of the Hauptamt für Erzieher, Part III, I, D, 2.

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The intensification of both training of teachers and the elaboration of subject matter was under governmental supervision, i.e., under the jurisdiction of the Reich Ministry of Education. Full coordination of policies of the Reich Ministry with that of the NSLB was guaranteed by the fact that all administrative personnel and all teachers in governmental employ served simultaneously in an honorary capacity with the NSLB.

The organization of the NS - Lehrerbund was determined functionally by the Hauptamt für Erzieher and by the Ämter subordinate to it; regionally it was patterned on the model of the regional organization of the Party. The Leiter des Hauptamtes was also the Reichswalter des NSLB, the Leiter des Gauamtes was Gauwalter des NSLB, and so forth.[1] Each of them had the position of an Amtsleiter (official) of the Gauamt, Kreisamt, etc. The various functionaries of the Reichswaltung and Gauwaltung were selected by the Reichswalter, Gauwalter, etc.

The NS - Lehrerbund (NSLB) was an affiliated association of the Party. It was supervised by the Hauptamt für Erzieher (Main Office for Educators). According to the official Party definition, the NS - Lehrerbund in close cooperation with the Hauptschulungsamt (Main Office for Training) was made responsible for the politico-ideological orientation of all teachers in the spirit of National Socialism and for the technical training of all German educators except those who were supervised by the NSD - Dozentenschaft (National Socialist German Society of University Teachers). ("Der NS - Lehrerbund ist verantwortlich für die weltanschauliche und politische Ausrichtung und die fachpolitische schulung der gesamten deutschen Erzieherschaft, soweit hierfür nicht der NSD - Dozentenbund zuständig ist."[2])

1. Cf. description of the Hauptamt für Erzieher.
2. Nationalsozialistisches Jahrbuch, 1944, p. 209; also Organisationsbuch der NSDAP, 1943, p. 252.

Furthermore, the NS - Lehrerbund was stated to be co-responsible for the coordination of formal education and for the planning of the National Socialist school reform. Finally, the NS - Lehrerbund, in cooperation with the official Party Examining Commission for the Protection of National Socialist Literature, was declared to be responsible for the coordination and examination of all pedagogic literature with respect to its technical and ideological contents.

To this end, the NS - Lehrerbund comprised all German teachers no matter whether they taught in universities or elementary schools. However, members were organized on the various regional levels in so-called "faculties" (Fachschaften), of which there were sever, depending on the type of school to which each member belonged, i.e., universities, high schools, middle schools, elementary schools, special schools, vocational and technical schools, and social-pedagogic schools.

The Reichswaltung of the NSLB contained the following offices subordinated to the Reichswalter:

Geschaftsführer (Executive Manager)

Abteilung Schrifttum (Section for Literature)

Abteilung Schulung (Section for Training)

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Unterabteilung Reichsschule
(Sub-section Reich School)

Abteilung Organisation
(Section for Organization)

Abteilung Wirtschaft und Recht
(Section for Economics and Law)

Abteilung Presse und Propaganda
(Section for Press and Propaganda)

Abteilung Erziehung und Unterricht
(Section for Education and Instruction)

Abteilung Personalpolitik
(Section for Personnel Policies)

Abteilung Kasse (Section for Finances)

Abteilung Revision (Section for Auditing)

Similar offices existed on the Gau level, the Kreis level and, if warranted by circumstances, i. e., by the presence of at least fifty members, on the level of Kreisabschnitt (District Sector), and if at least eight members were present, on that of Kreis-Unterabschnitt (District Sub-Sector).

In view of the compulsory nature of the NSLB, not every member can be considered as an accomplice in crimes committed by the NSLB. However, all those officials delegated by the top officers of the NSLB on the various levels of operations have shared in the responsibility for the indoctrination of German youth, specifically for the selection of teaching personnel and of teaching materials conducive to racial hatred and discrimination and to the fostering of the militaristic spirit and aggressive nationalism.

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III. The Reichsnährstand (Reich Food Estate)

The Reich Food Estate was a Party-supervised organization (betreute Organisation) operating under the direct supervision of the Reichsamt für das Landvolk. The Food Estate was organized as an autonomous corporation of public law. It was responsible for the control of the production, processing and distribution of agricultural products. All farmers, farm laborers, processors, and distributors of agriculture products were compulsory members.[1] Although established as a self-administering body in public law (Selbstverwaltungskörperschaft des öffentlichen Rechts) the Reich Food Estate was subject to the supervision of the Ministry for Food and Agriculture through mutual personnel--both Darré and his successor, Backe, were heads of the Ministry and of the Reich Food Estate. With the outbreak of the war, the Food Estate was placed under the direct supervision of the Ministry for Food and Agriculture.

The central administrative structure of the Reich Food Estate was organized as follows:

1. Reich Peasant Leader (Reichsbauernführer) Herbert Back
2. Assistant to the Peasant Leader--Hans Riecke
3. Press Liaison Officer--Rust
4. Administrative Office (General Policies) Chief: Gustav Behrens
5. Office of Peasant Leader (section 9a of the Ministry for Food and Agriculture) Chief: Dr.Manns

a. Reich Administrative Division, Chief: Walter Seidler
   (1) Reich Division Press, Education and Propaganda-Deetzen
   (2) Reich Division (The Farm)-Albert Brummenbaum
   (3) Reich Division (The Market)--Wilhelm Küper

1. Gesetz über den vorläufigen Aufbau des Reichsnährstandes und Massnahmen zur Markt und Preisregelung für landwirtschaftliche Erzeugnisse, 13 September 1933, RGBl I, 626.

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Operations were under the supervision of the Office of the Peasant Leader, which was, simultaneously, a division of the Ministry for Food and Agriculture. This division, in turn, controlled a regional and a functional organization, represented by two divisions, the Farm and the Market.

Reich Division II, The Farm, was subdivided regionally into 33 regional, 500 district, and 60,000 local Peasant Associations, the so-called Bauernschaften [1].

The leadership principle was applied to these territorial units. Control extended from the Reich Peasant Leader (Reichsbauernführer) at the top through the Regional Peasant Leaders (Landesbauernführer) who were the heads of the regional peasant associations. (Landesbauernschaften). The Chain of authority continued through the Kreisbauernschaften (District Peasant Associations) headed by the Kreisbauernführer (District Peasant Leaders), who headed the Ortsbauernführer (Local Peasant Associations). All crimes committed by subordinates are thus the responsibility of the upper echelons.

The Peasant Leaders presiding over these regional divisions of the Reich Food Estate were empowered to fix the

1. Immediately after the outbreak of the war, the Peasant Associations became divisions "A" of the newly created Ernährungs Ämter; Divisions "B" controlled rationing of food and were not under the direct control of the Reich Food Estate, although the Regional Peasant Leaders generally were heads of both Divisions "A" and "B".

schedules of agricultural production for their respective areas and, according to a decision of the Supreme Court,[1] were possessed of penal (strafrechtlich) powers which enabled them to institute criminal proceedings against anyone violating their orders. As pointed out above, all persons engaged in production, processing, and marketing of farm products were compulsory members of the Peasant Associations.

Reich Division III, the Market, was subdivided functionally into compulsory cartels known as Central Marketing Associations (Hauptvereinigungen) which were the policy-making agencies for the regional economic associations, (Wirtschaftsverbände). The latter comprised occupational groups of producers, processors, and marketers of farm products and the compulsory cartels into which they were grouped , were immediately concerned with the control of production and marketing subject to the supervision of the territorial officials, the Peasant Leaders.

After 1942 the Reich Food Estate performed the following functions,[2] subject to the supervision of both the Ministry for Food and Agriculture and the Reich Office for Rural Population:

1. Control of production, processing and distribution, of farm products as far as the retailer level.

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1. Reichsgericht decision 23 February 1942 cited in Wochenblatt der Landesbauernschaft, Württemberg, 4 July 1942.

2. The legislation under which the Reich Food Estate was empowered to perform these functions is given below.

2. Control of land tenure and land utilization regulations in agriculture, including the consolidation of small parcels of land into larger units, leased land application of the provisions of laws for the public regulation of agricultural holdings considered to be poorly managed, and the application of the Entailed Farm Legislation (Reichserbhofgesetz). This latter body of laws limited the inheritance of farm holdings between 7.5 and 125 hectares to one heir in each instance and prohibited the mortgaging or sale of such holdings. Only "Aryans" and persons of known Nazi sympathies were eligible to hold entailed farms.

3. Control of foreign labor in agriculture.

4. Supervision of the exploitation of the agricultural resources of conquered territories.

For administrative purposes the Entailed Farm Legislation [1] was under the jurisdiction of the Reich Food Estate, although the Ministry for Food and Agriculture and the Ministry of Justice exercised joint supervisory powers. Specifically, the following crimes were committed under the authorization of this legislation; which provided the Food Estate with an excellent weapon for Party purposes:

1. The law provided for systematic discrimination against Jews and against a broad

1. Reichserbhofgesetz, 29 September 1936, RGBl p. 685; Erbhofrechtsverordnung, 21 December 1936, RGBl p. 1069: Erbhofverfahrensordnung, 21 December 1936 RGBl. p. 1082.

category of those who were not considered , "bauernfähig," i.e., not competent to hold an entailed farm.[1]

2. Ruthless abolition of the rights of the so-called Altenteiler, owners of farms who had relinquished ownership of an entailed farm to an heir in return for board and lodging, was required if the productivity of the farm was seriously hampered by the granting of food to Altenteiler.[2]

3. The Entailed Farm legislation was employed as a political weapon to achieve a redistribution of farms to persons of ascertainable political reliability. In 1936, for example, there were 85,000 cases pending before local courts set up to handle litigation growing out of the Entailed Farm legislation. Not only were Jewish holders of farm property excluded from the benefits of the Entailed Farm legislation, but all persons of

1. Erbhofverfahrensordung, section 5 and Reichserbhofgesetz, sections 12 and 13.
2. Decision of Reichserbhofgericht, cited in Recht des Reichsnährstandes, Heft 8, April 1933, p. 336.

anti-Nazi leanings, including members of the Oxford Movement. [1].

Under the terms of the Entailed Farm Legislation and subsequent empowering ordinances, [2] the following measures were authorized:

The abolition of democratically organized agricultural groups such as the agricultural chambers. (Landwirtschaftskammern).

The coordination of farmers, farm workers, processors, and distributors into the Reich Food Estate by decree and without popular approval.

Arbitrary taxation of all compulsory members of the Reich Food Estate, i.e., individuals and corporate bodies.

A series of decrees governing the management of agricultural holdings was used as a punitive measure against "politically unreliable" farmers. Section 15 of Reichserbhofgesetz provided for the expulsion (Abmeierung) of farmers who managed their farms badly or who violated the code of the peasant "estate". Later legislation provided for economic supervision (Wirtschaftsüberwachung) or ecomomic management (Wirtschaftsführung) of badly managed farms. [3]. The institution of legal proceedings was a function of the District or Local Peasant Leaders.

1. A list of cases involving the competence of peasants is contained in Recht des Reichsnährstandes, the official legal periodical of the Reich Food Estate.
2. Verordnungen über den vorläufigen Aufbau des Reichsnährstandes, 8 December 1935, RGBl p. 1060; 28 September 1935, RGBl p. 1219; 23 June 1936, RGBl p. 510.
3. Erbhofverfahrensordnung, section 73, 21 December 1936. This legislation was applied also to non-entailed farms. The peasant leaders brought charges in the local Entail Courts controlled jointly by the Minister of Justice and the Reich Peasant Leader.

Although there was some legal precedent for this legislation in the Prussian Law of Primogeniture of 24 April 1930, which permitted the transfer of administrative rights where an estate was mismanaged, the intent behind the Nazi legislation and the method of application meant the subordination of the rights of private property to the arbitrary will of the Nazi Party. For example, administration of badly managed farms was the function of regional trustee associations operating under the control of the Reich Food Estate. Initiation of proceedings leading to the introduction of trustee administration was the responsibility of the Local Peasant Leader who, in many cases, was also appointed as trustee by the local inheritance court (Anerben). In this way the officials of the Reich Food Estate were able to impose sanctions upon farmers who were politically unreliable or upon those who had incurred the animosity of the Local Peasant Leaders. Periods of trusteeship varied from three to twelve years. 1.

Another charge attributed to the Reichsnährstand included the responsibility for foreign workers employed in German agriculture. 2.

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1. Reports of the court decisions on badly managed farms are carried in the weekly bulletins of the regional divisions of the Reich Food Estate, e.g., Wochenblatt der Landesbauernschaft Bayern.

2. German Basic Handbook, ABC of German Administration and Public Services, OSS CID 118052, p. 27; Reichsarbeitsblatt, I, 588, 2 June 1943, and Der Ausländische Arbeiter in Deutschland, p. 608.

In theory regional representatives of the various foreign groups possessed the right of negotiating with the Reich Food Estate; actually, however, the foreign workers were treated as slaves. German plans for the enslavement of foreign labor were baldly outlined in the above-mentioned by Walter Darre, one-time Minister for Food and Agriculture and head of the Reich Food Estate.

Unmistakable evidence of the enslavement of foreign labor employed in German agriculture is available in captured letters written to German soldiers by persons back home. One German wrote, for example; "I selected six Russians from the Minsk district. They are far more hardy than the French. Only one of them has died; the rest continue to work in the field and on the farm. It does not cost us anything to keep them.... Yesterday I subjected two of the Russian beasts to a light flogging when they were caught gobbling skimmed milk intended for the sows." 1.

Other evidence of the crimes committed against foreign labor in the interests of German agriculture was produced at the Kharkov trials. In testifying on his training, Senior Corporal Reinhard Retzlaff stated that several lectures were delivered to his training battalion by leading officials of the German Field police, who said that a vast number of allegedly inferior foreigners were fit only for use by large German landowners "in the capacity of slaves." 2.

1. Michael Sayers and Albert Kahn, The Plot against the Peace, New York, 1945, p. 111. 2. Ibid, p. 121.

The Reich Food Estate must also share some of the responsibility for the systematic plundering of conquered territories. The agricultural resources of German occupied territories were funneled into the Reich for the benefit of the German civilian population and the Wehrmacht. German rations were increased at the expense of the people of the conquered territories. For example, the average weekly ration of meat in the General Government in 1944 was 100 grams (3½ oz.) as compared with an allowance of 250 grams (9 oz.) for normal consumers in Germany proper.[1]

Food was also used as a weapon to enforce conformity to German occupation rule. In the incorporated eastern territories, for example, the "loyal Poles" were given the same rations as the Germans while other non-Germans and Jews got about one-half the amounts allotted to the former groups.[2] The withholding of food, for which the Reich Food Estate must share the responsibility, was a deliberate policy for the slow starvation of thousands of conquered people. In October 1942, Reich Minister Goering declared that "the German people come before all other peoples in matters of food." In even bolder terms Koch, Reich Commissioner for the Ukraine, declared that "if hundreds of thousands here starve to death, I demand the delivery of all established quantities without rest."

1. American Embassy, London, Economic Warfare Division, 1 May 1944"Average Weekly Food Rations in Enemy and Enemy Occupied Countries," Ref. L. 250/84/1/.

2. Ibid.

He further stated that the general supply situation made it necessary that all measures be taken without any regard to the civil population. [1].

To exploit the agricultural resources of the occupied eastern territories Wirtschaftsstab Ost, Chefgruppe Landwirtschaft, Berlin (Economic Staff East, Chief Group Agriculture, Berlin) was organized. Although it was under the direction of OKW, administratively over-all direction of the agricultural policies was a function of the administrative office of the Reich Peasant Leader in Berlin. Moreover, appointment to the higher positions in the Economic Staff was the responsibility of the same agency.[2].

A similar connection linked the Reich Food Estate with the Division of Food and Supply of the Ministry for the Occupied Territories, which administered areas to the west of the Dnieper. In addition, the Reich Food Estate was connected with Die Zentrale-Handelsgesellschaft Ost für Landwirtschaftlichen Absatz und Bedarf, Central Commercial Company East for Agricultural Marketing and Supply. This company organized as the major commercial organization to control all agricultural transactions between the eastern occupied territories and the old Reich. There was a twofold connection between this company and the Reich Food Estate. In the first place, high officials of the Food Estate were members of the Company's board of directors. Furthermore, the Reichsstelle (Reich offices),

1. PW interrogation No. L/89. CSDIC ME 30 August 1943
2. PW Interrogation No. N01/89. CSDIC.ME 30 August 1943.

the administrative branches of the central marketing associations (Hauptvereinigungen) in the Reich Food Estate, were identified with the operations of the company. [1]. The exact connection between the company and the Reich offices is not clear. But in view of functions of the Reich offices as the regulators of imports and exports of farm products to and from the old Reich, [2]. it would appear that the Reich offices were responsible for the formulation of the policies of the company.

The exploitative character of these policies is made abundantly clear in statements in the German press. For example, one journal said: "Demands...must be made on the Ukraine for the supply of the fighting forces and...in order to satisfy the additional requirements of the Reich as well as of Europe." [3].

The Reich Food Estate was directly responsible for the exploitation of the agricultural resources and of the farm populations of incorporated eastern territories. [4]. Within this area and in eastern France the Reich Company for the management of Agricultural Holdings (Reichgesellschaft für Landbewirtschaftung) operated in personal union with

1. Die Landwarte, 9 January 1943, p.1.
2. Verordnung über den Warenverkehr, 4 Septmeber 1934, RGBl., p. 816. and Verordnung über die Errichtung von Überwachungsstelle, vom 4.9.34., Reichsanzeiger No. 209.
3. Die Deutsche Volkswirt, 3 September 1943.
4. Verordnung über die Einfuhrung der Reichsnährstandsgesetzgebung in den eingegliederten Ostgebieten, RGBl. I. p. 47, 10 January 1940.

the Reich Food Estate.[1] In the occupied eastern territories expropriated Polish agricultural holdings were managed by the company.[2] The actual direction of the various farms was in the hands of personnel of the Reich Food Estate. In eastern France the company controlled two million hectares of land, of which 170,000 hectares were operated with French and Polish slave labor.[3]

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1. Oberschlesische Zeitung, 24 July 1943.
2. Frankfurter Zeitung, 15 May 1943; cf. Verordnung über die öffentliche Biwirtschaftung land und forstwirtschaftlicher Grundstücke in den eingegliederten Ostgebieten, RGBl. I, p. 355, 12 February 1940.
3. Frankfurter Zaitung, 15 May 1943.

Appendix I

The Reichsministerium für Volksaufklärung und Propaganda (Reich Ministry for Popular Enlightenment and Propaganda) The Minister was Josef Goebbels.

Functions and jurisdiction: The Nazi leaders had always recognized the power of propaganda as a political weapon.[1] When the NSDAP seized power in Germany it set out to fashion all media of expression into propaganda instruments which would help the Party to fasten its grip on the intellectual life of the German nation and to force all thought into a mould conforming to Nazi political and ideological principles.

To this end, three immediate objectives had to be achieved. First, the total intellectual, political, and artistic output of the nation had to be brought under strict control. Second, both producers and distributors in any given field had to be carefully selected and supervised. Third, a permanent check had to be kept on public reactions so as to permit adaptations at a moment's notice. The existing Party machinery would not have sufficed to complete all these aims. Therefore, in order to facilitate the Party's task of acquiring controls over the propaganda media, and their personnel, and to lend these operations a more legal air, Goebbels, Propaganda Leader of the Party, founded the Propaganda Ministry, which as a duly constituted organ of the government could provide official sanction and extend the scope of his activities.

1. See above, Part II of this paper.

According to Goebbels, Propaganda Ministry (Proni) was founded "to carry out the coordination (Gleichschaltung) between government and people" in order that the government should never again lose contact with them (vom Volke weichen) but should always be "in immediate contact with the people, listen to the most secret vibrations of the soul of the people and adjust every public measure to it." 1/ The Ministry was created, therefore, to implement Goebbels' concept of propaganda and to serve as "the connecting link between government and people ... the never resting instigator in the public formation of opinion (öffentliche Meinungsbildung) ...." 2/

The functions of the Proni were defined in the establishing decree as the "enlightenment of, and propaganda among, the people on the subject of the policy of the Reich Government and on the national reconstruction of the homeland." 3/ To this end the following functions were brought under the Ministry's jurisdiction: from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs there was transferred control over propaganda abroad; 4/ from the Ministry of Interior, all propaganda within the Reich, including control of the propaganda media (press, music, theater, film, art, and literature) and all institutions connected with these fields; from the Ministry of Posts, control over broadcasting; and from the Ministry of Economics, all propaganda matters concerning travel. 5/

1/ Goebbels, Soziale Revolution as quoted in Social Research, International Quarterly of Political and Social Science, May 1943, p. 206. 2/ Goebbels, Propaganda als Mittlerin, as quoted in Ibid. 3/ RGBl, I, 104, 13 March 1933. 4/ The Foreign Office, however, was reluctant to relinquish its hold over propaganda abroad, from which fact developed the feud between the Ministries. 5/ RGBl, I, 449, 30 Juli 1933.

With control established over all propaganda media in Germany, the Ministry became the most important and most efficient instrument for indoctrinating the German people with National Socialist racial and political ideology.

Despite the seeming independence of the Proni and despite the fact that it, and not the Party, was charged with policy making, issuance of general directives, and supervision of propaganda personnel, the Ministry remained, in effect, an instrument of the Party, helping it not only to monopolize propaganda, in terms of content, but also to establish economic supremacy in certain fields. The Party's control over the Proni manifested itself most prominently in two aspects: top positions in the Ministry were held by leading personalities in the Party propaganda machine, 1/ while on the regional and local levels there was complete coordination between Party and Government.

1/ The following list may serve as an example:

	Party	Government
Josef Goebbels	Reich Propaganda Leader	Minister of Propaganda President of the Reich Chamber of Culture
Otto Dietrich	Reich Press Chief	Undersecretary of State in the Proni for the Press Vice President of the Reich Press Chamber
Max Amann	Reich Leader of the Press	President of the Reich Press Chamber
Ingemar Berndt	Chief of the Division Active Propaganda	Chief of the Department for Propaganda Coordination in the Proni
Wilhelm Weiss	Editor of the Völkischer Beobachter	President of the Reich Association of Journalists

Organization of the Proni: 1/

Reich Minister: Josef (Paul) Goebbels

Staatssekretäre (Under Secretaries of State): Werner Naumann (formerly Leopold Gutterer), Otto Dietrich, and Herman Esser.

There were 17 functional departments:

Departments under Werner Naumann:

a. Abteilung Haushalt (Budget and Finance Department)

b. Personalabteilung (Personnel Department)

c. Rechtsabteilung (Legal Department)

d. Abteilung Propaganda (Propaganda Department) headed by Ingemar Berndt. This department coordinated propaganda policies and issued over-all directives to the various functional departments (press, radio, etc.) which then implemented the directives.

e. Abteilung Ausland (Foreign Department) This department was headed by Ministerialdirektor Drager, earlier by Hunke. This department was the Ministry's listening post for political and economic developments abroad for the purpose of exploiting the information in German propaganda. Its primary task, however, was to control propaganda abroad. To this end it cooperated closely with the Auslandsorganisation der NSDAP (Foreign Organization of the Party), whose cultural undertakings abroad were financed by this department of the Proni.

1/ Detailed information may be found in CSDIC (UK) PW paper 80, an interview with Richard Arnhold, former employe in the Proni.

f. Abteilung Rundfunk (Radio Department) This department was headed by Hans Fritzsche, and his deputy Scharping who both appeared also as star commentators on the German radio. It supervised the political content of German broadcasting. It issued directives as to the arrangement of programs and the treatment of material. It also cooperated with the Party in the technical organization of German radio.

g. Abteilung Film (Film Department). This department, headed by Hippler, was in charge of directing and guiding the German film industry, censoring of films, and developing the German weekly newsreel (Wochenschau)

h. Abteilung Schrifttum (Literature Department). It was headed by Karl Haegert. It was responsible for the control and organization of all German literary activities, the censorship of new books, the publication of German books abroad, and for the translation and censorship of foreign books.

i. Abteilung Theater (Theater Department) Headed by Rainer Schlösser.

j. Abteilung Bildende Kunst (Art Department) Headed by Biebrach.

k. Abteilung Musik (Music Department) Headed by Dr. Drewes.

l. Abteilung Besondere Kulturaufgaben (Special Cultural Tasks) Headed by Hans Hinkel.

m. Abteilung Reichsverteidigung (Department for the Defense of the Reich). It was headed by Major of the Police (Major der Schutzpolizei) Title. The department was responsible for liaison with the police, security within the Ministry and for the development of the Reich air raid warning system and civil defense.

Departments under Otto Dietrich:

a. Abteilung Deutsche Presse (German or Home Press Department) This department was headed by Erich Fischer. It was responsible for the political control over the entire German press; specifically it controlled the editorial policy of the press and its personnel (through the agency of the Reich Press Chamber), and supervised the dissemination of news through the Official German news agency (DNB). The Home Press Division outlined the editorial policy of all newspapers and the work of editors and journalists in its daily directives (Tendenz berichte). These dealt with the daily contents of the paper, the methods of treatment of news material, the writing of headlines, the preference or omission of certain items, and the toning down or dropping of current campaigns. The directives were either issued to the representatives of the press in person or sent through the facilities of the DNB to the local papers.[1/] Any journalist who failed to follow the directive was likely to lose his job.

1/ For details see British Basic Handbook, Germany Part II, Chapter 12 and PW paper 80, CSDIC (UK), interview with Richard Arnhold, former employe of the Promi.

b. Abteilung Auslandspresse (Foreign Press Department). This department was headed by Brauweiler. It supervised both German journalists abroad and foreign journalists in Germany. It censored their articles, subsidized them, etc. Daily press conferences were also held.

c. Abteilung Zeitschriftenpresse (Periodical Literature Department). It controlled German periodical literature in the same manner as the Abteilung Deutsche Presse controlled the daily press.

One department was under Hermann Esser:

a. Abteilung Fremdenverkehr (Tourist Trade Department). It was in charge of all propaganda matters concerning travel and foreign tourist traffic in Germany.

The Propaganda Ministry, by virtue of the total control it exercised over German cultural life and by virtue of the functions assigned to it, was an accessory in the commission of crimes by the NSDAP and the German Government. It was responsible for the indoctrination of the German people with National Socialist ideology, for their intellectual preparation for German aggressive warfare, and in many instances incitement against racial or political groups and others considered as inimical to the Reich. Radio and press campaigns inciting the population against the Jews were conducted under the guidance of the Propaganda Ministry just prior to the Jewish pogroms in the Reich. Likewise a thorough propaganda campaign inciting the population against enemy fliers preceded the lynchings of American airmen in Germany.[1]

The Ministry was responsible for the issuance of laws and decrees curtailing and abolishing the freedom of the press and of expression. It was responsible for legalizing the Party's monopoly on the field of Propaganda, and for implementing and executing laws which established the principle of racial discrimination for the intellectual and artistic professions. For example, the Editorial Law basically altered the relation of journalist to publisher. It made the journalist primarily responsible to the government for the political content of his writing. It provided for the exclusion from the journalistic profession of Jews and other persons considered politically undesirable.[2]

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1. See article by Goebbels in Völkischer Beobachter, 28 May 1944.
2. RGBl, I, 713, 4 October 1933.

Furthermore, the Ministry was involved in the execution of psychological warfare and in the spread of Nazi doctrines in German-occupied countries and among ethnic Germans abroad. It financed German "cultural" undertakings abroad; organized and maintained information libraries, provided for the translation of Nazi books into foreign languages, arranged for German propagandists to tour European countries. Furthermore, the Ministry absorbed, invaded or founded other international organizations, such as the International Journalist's Association, and the International Film Chamber as instruments through which it attempted to dominate the cultural life of other countries. 1/

Semi-autonomous Professional Organizations

The Reichskulturkammer (Reich Chamber of Culture).

Functions: The Reichskulturkammer was founded in November 1933 in order to "promote German culture as responsible to the people and the Reich, to regulate the social and economic relations of the different groups in the cultural professions and to coordinate their aims." 2/ It was to serve as a roof organization for several professional chambers, and, through these, to represent the "government's protecting hand over German culture so that it may develop in new channels, free from destructive dilletantism and economic greed." 3/

1/ See Civil Affairs handbooks: Germany, Section 12: Communications and Control of Public Opinion.
2/ RGBl I, 779, 22 September 1933
3/ Speech of Goebbels at the inauguration of the Reichskulturkammer on 15 November 1933. Publication in Frankfurt a.M. 1933, pp. 20-21.

Jurisdiction of the Reichskulturkammer. 1/ SECRET

Officially the Reichskulturkammer was a so-called "Nachgeordnete Dienstatelle" (Subordinate office) of the Propaganda Ministry. Together with its subordinated Chambers it was charged with keeping a check on all personnel active in any field under the jurisdiction of the Propaganda Ministry. All persons employed in the cultural professions had to register with one of the subordinate Chambers. The Chambers were, however, responsible not only for the registration of members, for they were to implement the legislation establishing racial and political discrimination in the admission of individuals to cultural professions. They were likewise responsible for checking on the activities and political reliability of their members. The Chambers, moreover, were given power to prosecute members offending against Nazi standards or persons pursuing their occupation without being duly registered. Their punitive powers included exclusion from membership, which was tantamount to the loss of livelihood. Furthermore, the Chambers were given power to issue directives, which had the validity of law, and to regulate the economic and social relations of the cultural fields under their control.

Organization: 2/
President: Josef Goebbels
Vice President: Walter Funk, Max Amann,
Leopold Gutterer.

There were six functional Chambers:
Reichspressekammer (Reich Press Chamber) President Max Amann,
(One of the most vicious corporate members was the

1/ First Executive Decree to the Law concerning the Reich Chamber of Culture - 1 November 1933, RGBl. I, also Third Executive order of 19 April 1937, RGBl, I. 468.

2/ For details see: Handbuch der Reichskulturkammer, Deutscher Verlag, Berlin 1937.

Reichsverband der Deutschen Press /German Jornalists' Association/ headed by Wilhelm Weiss.)

Reichskammer der Bildenden Kunste (Reich Chamber of Fine Arts) President Wilhelm Kreis.

Reichsmusikkammer (Reich Music Chamber) President Peter Raabe.

Reichstheaterkammer (Reich Theater Chamber) President Rainer Schlösser.

Reichsfilmkammer (Reich Film Chambers) President Karl Frölich, later Franz Hippler.

Reichsschrifttumskammer (Reich Chamber of Literature) President Hanns Johst.

The Chamber of Culture and various functional Chambers implemented the Party's and Ministry's policy of racial and political discrimination with regard to personnel in the field of culture. The Chambers also issued directives leading to the economic exploitation of non-party cultural enterprises (See above, Reichsleiter für die Presse), and in some instances to the expropriation of property owned by anti-Nazis and Jews.

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Appendix II

The Ministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft.

The Ministry for Food and Agriculture (Ministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft) was a government agency whose functions were naturally connected with the operation of the Party's Reichsamt für das Landvolk. Consequently, the work of the latter organization cannot be fully understood without reference to the Ministry. It was responsible for the over-all planning of agricultural production and distribution within Germany proper and for the drafting of plans for the integration of the agricultural resources of conquered territories into the economy of a Greater Germany.

The specific functions of the Ministry are indicated by the tasks assigned to its more important divisions: 1.

1. General Affairs: Count von der Schulenburg
2. Production and Consumption, Marketing Regulation: Dr. Moritz
3. Labor Supply, etc: Dr. Lorenz
4. Tariff and Customs Policy, Foreign Agricultural Relations: Dr. Walter
5. Hereditary Farm Law, Farmers, and the Agricultural Population, Transfers of Land: Baron Dr. von Manteuffel
8. Farm Settlement in Newly-Acquired Territories, Rehabilitation of Farmers in the Old Reich: Hiege
9. Readjustment of Agricultural Holdings, etc.: Reinthaller
9a Office of the Peasant Leader: Dr. Hanns

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1. Reichsaddressbuch, 1941, pp 79-80;
Taschenbuch für Verwaltungsbeamte, 1943.
Only the relevant divisions are given above.

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The Ministry and Control of Domestic Agriculture.

A law of 5 July 1936 empowered the Minister for Food and Agriculture to reorganize German agriculture.[1] Under the authority conveyed in this law and in another of 13 September 1933, [2] the Minister established the Reichsnährstand (Reich Food Estate). Although the latter body was established as a self-administering body in public law (Selbstverwaltungskörperschaft des öffentlichen Rechts),[3] the Ministry for Food and Agriculture exercised general supervision over the Reich Food Estate, [4] by means of both legislative directives and mutual personnel.

The head of both Ministry and Food Estate was successively Walter Darré (D 1942) and Herbert Backe. With the outbreak of the war, the Reich Food Estate was placed directly under the Ministry for Food and Agriculture, [5] and the plans of the Cartel arrangements, called Marketing Associations, which controlled the procurement of food in Germany were subject to the approval of the Ministry. [6]

As the agency enjoying over-all supervision of agricultural planning, the Ministry for Food and Agriculture must share responsibility for the domestic crimes committed under the immediate supervision of the Reich Food Estate.[7]

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1. Gesetz über die Zuständigkeit des Reiches für die Regelung des ständischen Aufbaues der Landwirtschaft, RGBl. p. 495.
2. Gesetz über den vorläufigen Aufbau des Reichsnährstandes und Massnahmen zur Markt und Preisregelung für landwirtschaftliche Erzeugnisse. RGBl. p. 626.
3. Verordnung, 8 December 1933 RG p. 1060.
4. See discussion of the Reich Food Estate.
5. Verordnung des Reichsministers für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft über die offentliche Bewirtschaftung von landwirtschaftlichen Erzeugnisse August 27, 1939 RGBl I. 1521.
6. Ibid. 7. See discussion of the Reich Food Estate.

The Ministry and Occupied Territories

The Ministry for Food and Agriculture formulated plans for the regimentation of agriculture in preparation for the waging of aggressive war. According to Darré these plans had been worked out as early as 1932 in the "Brown House" in Munich. [1] Furthermore, the system of agricultural planning, he stated, was organized in such a way that its transformation into an instrument of war could be achieved without any dislocations of the economy. [2] This point had been reached as early as 1935. [3] From an early date, moreover, the formulations of German agricultural policy were actively concerned with plans to establish German leadership in the economy of Central Europe. [4] In the Official Party Announcement on the Position of the NSDAP on Agriculture and the Rural Population, the task of German foreign policy was said to be the creation of "food and settlement space for the growing German people." [5]

In collaboration with the Delegate for the Four Year Plan, the Minister for the Occupied Territories, and the Wehrmacht, the Ministry for Food and Agriculture organized the planning and regimentation of the agricultural resources of Europe into an integrated system, under which the food requirements of the conquered peoples were subordinated to the needs of the Wehrmacht and the German people.

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1. Walter Darré, Um Blut und Boden, p. 512
2. Recht des Reichsnährstandes, Heft 24, 1940, p. 909
3. W. Darré, op. cit., p. 514
4. Ibid p. 529
5. Recht des Reichsnährstandes, Heft 12, 1938, p. 489

In Greater Germany (the old Reich, plus Alsace-Lorraine, Austria, Sudetenland, the annexed parts of Poland /Warthegau/, Danzig, and Memelland), agriculture was included within the Reich Food Estate,[1] subject to the over-all direction of the Ministry. All policies applying in the old Reich were introduced and all farm products were subject to sequestration.[2] In the Greater Reich food was rationed, for the most part, on the same standard as applied in the old Reich. Poles and Jews, however, were discriminated against and were supplied with special ration cards for lower quotas of food.[3]

In violation of Article 47 of the Hague Convention of 1907,[4] which expressly forbids the confiscation of private property, a decree of December 1940 provided for the public management of all agricultural and forest holdings in the incorporated Eastern Territories not owned by persons of German stock.[5] The execution of this measure was entrusted to the Ministry for Food and Agriculture operating through the Ostdeutsche Landbewirtschaftungsgesellschaft (East German Land Management Company), which took over the rights and the functions of the former owners.[6]

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1. Cf. Verordnung über die Einführung des Reichsnährstandgesetzes in den Sudetendeutschen Gebieten. 19 October 1938, RGBl, II. Verordnung über die Einführung des Reichsnährstandgesetzes in den eingegliedeten Ostgebieten. 10 January 1940, RGBl. I. 47; Verordnung zur Inkraftsetzung des Reichnährstandgesetzes im Lande Österreich. 14 May 1938, RGBl. I. 523. 2. See discussion of Reich Food Estate.
3. Erlass des Reichs-Ernährungs-Ministeriums betreffend durchführung des Karten-systems vom 18 Juni 1941, Ernährungswirtschaft, 11 c, 1 -2500
4. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, "Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907 Respecting the Laws and Customs of War on Land", Pamphlet No. 5. p. 24.
5. Verordnung über die öffentliche Bewirtschaftung land und forstwirtschaftlicher Grundstucke in den eingegliedeten Ostgebieten.
6. Ostlandverordnung, RGBl. I p. 355, 2 December 1940. SECRET

The confiscation of private landed property was further expedited by a decree of the Minister for Food and Agriculture [1] which authorized Reichs- or Volksdeutsche to exchange their property damaged by war for the undamaged holdings of Poles in the occupied eastern territories. In addition a joint order [2] of the Minister for Food and Agriculture and Himmler allowed persons of German stock to acquire ownership of holdings over which they had enjoyed power of disposal (Verfügungsmacht) as guardians or lessees of property. The execution of this measure was a responsibility of the SS and the police. [3] Another joint order authorized the confiscation of land which had been transferred by Germans to Poles and Jews and was in the possession of members of either of the latter groups on 1 October 1939. [4]

A still broader basis for confiscation of land was afforded by a decree for the Confiscation of Property of Groups Hostile to the People and the State in the Occupied Eastern Territories. [5]

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1. Erlass des Reichsernährungsminister, 11 October 1940, VIII, 6026.
2. Allgemeine Ordnung, 28 December 1940, cited in Recht des Reichnährstandes, Heft 3, p. 69, February 1941.
3. Ibid.
4. Reichskommissar für die Festigung deutschen Volkstums and Minister für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft, Erlass 8 January 1941, Reichsministerialblatt, Landwirtschaft, p. 42.
5. Verordnung über die Einziehung Volks oder Reichsfeindlichen Vermogens in den eingegliederten Ostgebieten, 14 August 1942, RGBl. I, 514.

The Ministry for Food and Ag riculture, furthermore, w as involved in the direction of settling Germans in conquered territories. Working in cooperation with the Commissariat for the Defense of Germanhood, (Kommissariat für die festigung deutschen Volkstums)[1], the Ministry was responsible for the ousting from their lands of Polish, French, and Czech farmers to make way for the settlement of persons of German origin. In 1940, for example, it was announced that 40,000 farmers from southwestern Germany were to be settled in Wartheland and were to occupy land formerly held by Poles.[2]

In some instances the regulations governing settlement were the joint responsibility of the Army High Command (OKW) and the Ministry for Food and Agriculture,[3] although the actual establishment of settlement companies was left to the Ministry alone.[4] In the Incorporated Eastern Territories the following companies were set up:

Bauernsiedlung Posen GmbH, Berlin -- Walter Kruger, director.

Bauernsiedlung Hohensalza GmbH , Berlin--Dr. Wilhelm Bogens, director.

1. The Commissariat was organized by Himmler in 1939 after the outbreak of the war to "Germanize the East, not in the old sense of bringing the German language and German laws to the people dwelling in that area, but to insure that in the East only people of genuinely German, Teutonic blood shall live". See also Durchführung des Führererlasses zur Festigung des deutschen Volkstums, 7 October 1939, cited in Neues Bauerntum, vol. 32, 1940, p. 73.
2. Studies of Migration and Settlement (Transfer of Peoples in Europe 1939-42), p. 126.
3. Rund Erlass des Reichsministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft, 25 January 1940, VIII, 24091/40, cited in Neues Bauerntum vol. 32, 1940, p. 73.
4. Neues Bauerntum, loc. cit.

Bauernsiedlung Kalisch GmbH, Berlin--Fritz Donner, director.

Danzig-Westpreussische Landsiedlung GmbH, Danzig --

Bauernsiedlung Westmark GmbH, Saarbruck --

For the settlement operations in Lorraine the following decrees should be consulted:

Anordnung des Chefs der Zivilverwaltung über die Besiedlung des lothringischen Gronzlandes vom 10 Juli 1942. Verordnungsblatt für Lothringen, No. 29, p. 33.

Verordnung über die Neuordnung des Siedlungsraumes in Lothringen. Verordnungsblatt für Lothringen December 7, 1940, p. 389.

Verordnung über das in Lothringen anzuwendende Recht zur Neubildung deutschen Bauerntums. Verordnungsblatt, 11 February 1941, p. 130.